Daily Report

East Europe

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FBIS-EEU-93-105 *3 June 1993*

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Berisha Attends Military Ceremony in Korce

AU0206200093 Tirana ATA in English 0839 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Tirana, 2 Jun (ATA)—"Homeland, flag, and the nation—these are three pillars on which we must base the education of the Albanian Army," the general commander of the Armed Forces, President Sali Berisha, declared on June 1 at the ceremony of extending the banner to the Korce division.

President Berisha was escorted by Safet Zhulali, minister of defence, at the ceremony on the occasion. In the tanks unit, President Berisha was welcomed by General Lieutenant Ilia Vasho, chief of the General Staff of the Army, and other senior officials of Korce district.

On this occasion President Berisha greeted the soldiers and officers and said that this memorable day marks the beginning of the reorganization of the Albanian Army. "This is a memorable event to your division, to the whole army. This marks an important step to carry out the reform in the Albanian Army, the process of its transformation, in defence of the interests of the people and homeland, in defence of the achievements of democracy, in defence of the Albanian nation." President Berisha underlined that "presently we are living through a period of historic changes. We had long since turned our eyes to democracy and presently we are taking reliable steps. We develop democracy in a region where the shadow of war, massacre, and crime aggravate the situation.

"But we are determined on our road, we are resolute to do our best to maintain peace and stability. We are 7 million people separated into five states, we are self-controlled, and this does not show fear, hesitation, but strength."

Afterwards the ceremonial march past took place.

President Berisha met with military of the garrison and went to the city of Korce. The president laid a wreath at the martyrs' graves of the district on the inscription "To the Martyrs of the Nation." Then he addressed the participants. He underlined that it is the duty of the younger generation to pay tribute to the martyrs. They rest in the cold land but they live in our hearts, the national flag personifies their blood. We are free, because the Albanian sons and daughters laid down their lives, thus showing honour to Albania and the nation. The symbols are dear to all the long suffering peoples, but the heroes of Albania will always be on the pedestal, President Berisha said.

President Berisha Meets With the Inhabitants of Zvezde

At midday President Berisha met with the inhabitants of Zvezde in the center of the village. "I greet you who transformed the agriculture of Albania and will flourish it in the future," said the president addressing the inhabitants.

After pointing to the respect of the whole Albania for the labouring peasantry, President Berisha underlined: "During this year you got the land, and now you work for yourself, for your families. This made you love work, be responsible for it, this strengthened your love for Albania."

In his address President Berisha considered the creation of the herds as a barbarous act of the previous system and concentrated on the Law on Land and its values. "This law is righteous because it does not deny the property, it distributed the property, created private farmers and respects the great principle of private property," President Berisha underlined. "It recognizes the old property and logically compensates the owners. Naturally this does not mean that it satisfies the interests of every individual. In this context, recently, some ex-owners, whom I consider honoured citizens, launched a strike and demand to give the land to the once owners. They are not satisfied with the amount of compensation. In my opinion such an act is unreasonable. It would be absurd to make the peasants, these ex-slaves of the communist dictatorship, day labourers working in the lands of different individuals." Mr. Berisha underlined that we should not forget that the communist dictatorship nationalized the property of the ex-owners and the peasant was mercilessly exploited. "These strikers who supported democracy, from the political point of view rise against themselves," the president underlined. They say that they voted for the Democratic Party, but I must underline that one of the basic rules of democracy is to respect the power of the majority both when you voted for or against it.

"In every democratic society across the world the majority has the right to run the country," President Berisha underlined. "It is not democratic that certain groups or special minority try to impose by all means their will on the majority elected by fair election. This happens under dictatorship but never in democracy. This would have a grave impact. The bitter Albanian history in the past should be a great lesson to us."

President Berisha dwelt on the program of the democratic government, which is also the program of the Democratic Party, particularly in the sector of agriculture. He underlined that many of the promises are fulfilled. He considered the next year as the year of private agriculture. He also concentrated on the facilitating conditions for the private farmers, such as the abolition of taxes, liberalization of prices, investments in agriculture, which cover about 50 million dollars for the upcoming year.

In conclusion President Berisha called once again on the strikers and their families to suspend the strike and not to forget that the freedom they won is dearer than anything else. He also called on them not to lose confidence in the Democratic Party, which brought the freedom and will guarantee the future.

Meeting of the President With the Former Political Persecuted of Korce District

In the district council, President Berisha met with members of the branch of the former Political Prisoners' Association and the democrat veterans of Korce. President Berisha said:

"I have come here to meet and talk on the problems preoccupying you. Undoubtedly, you have been a decisive factor for the existence of Albania and the Albanian nation, therefore you are and will remain dear and respected. The virtues manifested in the struggle against the occupier are and will remain unforgettable. Life is a precious thing but in certain cases, people give their life for the homeland. The martyrs, too, fought and laid down their lives on the basis of this concept. We are a patient people and nation but also militant and if need be we shall sacrifice for the cause of the homeland and nation.

"Many people fought during the Antifascist National Liberation War, but not all of them accomplished their ideals. We respect the ideals of every martyr, because they were martyrs of the free speech, martyrs of democracy. I have on one side the chairman of the Association of the Veterans and on the other side the chairman of the Former Political Prisoners. It is freedom that unites these two."

Further on Berisha stressed further on that "I have asked from the government to respect the veterans and political prisoners and to help them be integrated in the present democratic life."

Meeting of President Berisha with Leaders of Korce District Council and Municipality

The chairman of Korce District Council and the vice-mayor of the municipality reported respectively on the performance in the district council and the municipality council. Then President Berisha took the floor. He said:

I am glad the local government is functioning despite the already known difficulties. The indispensability of enlarging the competence of the local government is a question of the time. To this aim a legislation is being drafted in accordance with the charter of local autonomy in governing, which is being prepared in cooperation with the Council of Europe.

Centralisation is one of the most bitter traditions we have inherited from the past. You must be sure that local government shall be decentralised and this will be in conformity with the European Charter. We have begun decentralisation in privatisation. The best privatisation is that which is speedier. The asset is not lost if it goes to the citizens. We will attack centralisation in the direction of investments. I have asked the government to adopt the simplest laws on investments. Investments have begun in Albania and will continue in the future.

I congratulate you for the land reform. You are one of the districts that have carried it out better. Every inch of your land is sown and I am glad of this fact.

The municipality will take care to make the citizens' life ever more pleasant. We will do much more in relation to education, culture, health, and entertainment.

The heating problem in your district is very serious. A World Bank study will be applied soon.

We must review the names of streets and squares. They should be named after the most outstanding sons and daughters of the district and Albania. In Paris a square is named after "Scanderbeg." Then why not name them after the world outstanding figures of the world, those figures who are closely related to Albania?

And finally, I promise that the autonomy of local government will become a reality.

President Berisha conducted a meeting in the afternoon with the city's workers at the Sports Palace.

PD Meeting Discusses Privatization

AU0306074393 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Under the leadership of the Democratic Party [PD] Chairman Eduard Selami, the PD national conference held its proceedings in the PD headquarters at noon today.

In the complexity of the problems discussed there, the conference focussed its main attention on privatization problems and the need to accelerate its rate. The speakers pointed out and criticized the hesitation and delay noticed in the privatization of state enterprises. The conference stressed that the only way to overcome the collapse of the state enterprises and soothe unemployment and assistance is to accelerate the rate of privatization. The experience of other former communist countries and the success of the privatization policy in the countryside testify to the efficiency of this road. The conference stressed that privatization is one of the fundamental topics in the PD program and the most important aspect in the economic reform. The conference suggested granting more prerogatives to local governments regarding the privatization of various state objects.

Another topic discussed at the conference was the fight against corruption. The speakers acquainted the conference with the concerns and the support of the PD members and sympathizers and the honest people throughout the country in discovering and punishing thieves and the red and corrupted mafiosi who plundered the humanitarian aid granted to the Albanian people by Italy. The conference showed concern in the delay noticed in the work of justice bodies in this direction and asked them to show commitment and a

serious desire to start legal proceedings against, and punish, the carriers of corruption in Albania at the proper time.

At the end, Mr. Selami summed up the conclusions of the conference and stressed once more the importance of the privatization process for the course of the economic reform in Albania.

Pollution Exceeds 'Permitted Norms' in Lac

AU3105090793 Tirana ALEANCA in Albanian 18 May 93 p 3

[B.B. article: "Lac: Between Life and Death"]

[Text] It seems as if the time has come for the Albanian Government to seriously confront the problems of pollution, which have so far been considered future problems for Albania, ruined by the assault of the past. Some 20,000 inhabitants in the industrial town of Lac are endanger of not being able to breath in a few years if the copper and superphosphate complex continues working. Some 15,000 m^3 sulfur dioxide, emitted every day from the burning in the superphosphate plant create a biblical plague-like cloud in the Lac sky. As soon as it comes into contact with the noses, lips, or tongues of the citizens, this cloud is automatically turned into acid.

The sanitary authorities admit, not without reservation, that pollution exceeds the norms permitted in the city by five to six times and those permitted in the plant working environment by 10 to 20 times. The year 1992, when both plants were shut due to a shortage of raw materials, constitutes a flourishing year for vegetation and agriculture in general. Residents admit that the dry cough still dominated over the silence of the chimneys, but the incomes of the peasants in raising livestock and vegetables were as no other year before. However, 1,500 workers of both plants prefer employment to their health, and this tendency of theirs to fight with themselves is hopeless and a short-term means.

The Copper Melting Plant created in 1979 is near bankruptcy. The technology used there has been out of use in Europe since 1975. According to an engineer, around $170 million is needed to renovate the whole copper processing system in Albania. Meanwhile, the Lac plant lost its market years ago. The decline in international copper prices has made the cost of producing Albanian copper higher than that of the market price. The present price for a ton of copper is $1,700, while the plant maintains about 800 metric tons of copper in stock. The plant specialists are complaining that the government is not able to open the way to foreign investments, though the copper reserves are large. An IMF fund project has been left in who-knows-what offices, states a 43-year-old engineer who, for 45 German marks, is throwing up from his damaged stomach every day. Many others, just like him, are living only for the bread of tomorrow. The two plants constitute the main source of income for the majority of Lac inhabitants. Anyway, it is too late now. For many of the inhabitants left in Lac as an enclave of socialism, it is too late to start another life far away from the polluted industrial town. It is also becoming increasingly difficult even for the little children who sell cigarettes and chocolates along the national highway connecting Shkoder with Tirana. Two weeks ago the pope himself greeted them from an armored window, but in the other days... the passengers prefer not to stop at all near vendors, thus closing the car windows and blocking the nose with a handkerchief to avoid the filthy smell of sulfur.

Explosion at Bulgarian Embassy in Belgrade

AU0206195993 Sofia BTA in English 1828 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 2 (BTA)—At 10:00 hrs [0700 GMT] this morning the charge d'affaires of the Bulgarian Embassy in Belgrade, Yordan Kozhukharov, informed BTA as follows:

"At 23:10 hrs [2010 GMT] last night there was a loud explosion in the embassy yard which was immediately covered by thick smoke. No damage was caused, as the explosive device fell in the grass. Officers of the Belgrade Interior Ministry, called right after the explosion, made an inspection of the crime scene. As the yard was poorly lighted, it was agreed that they would return in the morning to complete the examination."

Asked whether he had any suspicions as to who might have planted the explosive, the Bulgarian diplomat said, "Of late we've been getting a little more attention by anti-Bulgarian elements."

At 07:00 hrs [0400 GMT] this morning the investigative authorities in Belgrade made an on-the-spot inspection, the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry's Press Service reported. The explosion was felt in the neighborhood and activated car alarms. No damage was caused. The incident was immediately reported to the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry and the police. The results of the investigation will be reported later, the press release says.

Today the charge d'affaires of the Bulgarian Embassy in Belgrade visited the Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs and delivered a note in connection with the explosion device that went off in the embassy's yard on June 1. He insisted on taking adequate measures to protect and guarantee the security of the embassy's employees and their families, another press release of the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry reads.

A specialized team of the Belgrade police examined the crime scene, establishing that the explosion was caused by a hand grenade thrown into the yard. Pieces of shrapnel were also found and the approximate trajectory of the grenade was determined.

An embassy official told BTA that the results of the investigation were not known so far. There was no change in the security measures either: As before, the Bulgarian Embassy and the Embassy of Italy are guarded by one policeman only.

UK Foreign Secretary Hurd Arrives for Visit

AU0306122293 Sofia BTA in English 1140 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 3 (BTA)—British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd today arrived on a two-day official visit to Bulgaria as part of his Balkan tour, which includes Romania, where he has already held talks, and Macedonia, the third and final leg.

"We will have to take stock and see how we can strengthen cooperation between Bulgaria and Britain, Bulgaria and the European Community," Mr. Hurd told the press at sofia airport. "I want to hear and see something of the pace of reform in this country, political and economic," he said. The chief British diplomat will spend some time in Sofia discussing "the problems of the former Yugoslavia, which are of great interest and concern to Bulgaria as they are to us." The enforcement of the UN sanctions will also be on the agenda. Asked about sanctions busting, Mr. Hurd said, "I am impressed by the way in which the Danube River is being policed by the Bulgarian authorities with the help of the sanctions assistance mission."

Mr. Hurd arrived in Bulgaria at Ruse, crossing the Danube from Romania on board one of the patrol boats supplied by the United States for the enforcement of the international sanctions. The BTA correspondent in Ruse quoted a local government official as saying that on his arrival, the British foreign secretary said that Bulgaria and Romania experience great economic difficulties arising from the embargo against Serbia and Montenegro and should ask for assistance in the implementation of individual projects in their capacity as UN members. Mr. Hurd visited the customs post at the Port of Ruse and then talked to the U.S. sanctions observers in Ruse. The chief of the UN observer mission in Bulgaria Reiner Beussel briefed Mr. Hurd on the situation on the Danube and the lack of violations of the embargo along the river.

The British foreign secretary will confer today with Prof. Lyuben Berov, prime minister and acting foreign minister. Later in the day the two will sign a Bulgarian-British joint declaration. This afternoon Mr. Douglas Hurd will hold talks with National Assembly Chairman Aleksandur Yordanov and the parliamentary floor leaders, and will have a meeting with President Zhelyu Zhelev tomorrow.

Mr. Hurd is accompanied by his wife, who has a separate schedule.

Cabinet Dismisses BTA Chief Indzhev

AU0306121093 Sofia BTA in English 1151 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 3 (BTA)—Today the Council of Ministers dismissed Ivo Indzhev as BTA director general, the spokesman for the Council of Ministers announced. The government appointed Stefan Gospodinov as director general of BTA.

The government dismissed Mr. Indzhev in view of the status of BTA as a committee with the Council of Ministers under a decree of the State Council issued in 1973.

In his memorandum to the Council of Ministers Prof. Berov says that appearing in different mass media, Ivo Indzhev has openly expressed his negative attitude to the state institutions in general and the president and the

government in particular, which is incompatible with his status as a civil servant. The Bulgarian News Agency (BTA) headed by him is accused, citing examples, of serious attempts at disinformation which it does mostly by spreading untrue and often distorted information.

It is impermissible to have BTA continuously selecting and spreading all kinds of anti-Bulgarian materials from various papers and magazines that are slanderous for our country, thus putting to a serious test Bulgaria's relations with other states. The latest example of it is the information that appeared in the Spanish ABC paper and was then spread by BTA, the prime minister says, motivating his demand for the dismissal of the BTA director general.

Zhelev Addresses Ceremony in Vratsa

AU0206094093 Sofia BTA in English 2005 GMT 1 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 1 (BTA)—A solemn ceremony in commemoration of the heroes who perished for Bulgaria's freedom was held in Vratsa, Northwestern Bulgaria. It was attended by President Zhelyu Zhelev. On June 2 the Bulgarian nation traditionally pays tribute to the national heroes and apostles of freedom. The ceremony takes place in Vratsa, where poet and revolutionary Khristo Botev was killed in battle for Bulgaria's liberation from Turkish rule in 1876.

In his address, aired live on National Television, President Zhelev said,

"This day is linked to the name of Khristo Botev, not only because of his heroic death, but also because of the integrity of his life, a sublime example of self-sacrifice in the name of freedom and the fatherland. Botev is the man who turned self-sacrifice into a category of aesthetics present in the conscience of every Bulgarian.

"Now, like then, Bulgarians regard highly moral values in politics and service to the fatherland. Now, like then, they assess politicians by their moral qualities and virtues," Mr. Zhelev said.

"The nation can forgive its leaders a lot of things. But it would never forgive lies, deception, self-interest, corruption and demagogy, it would never forgive the abuse of public values and the national interests. It does not regard national heroes as idols, but as a moral standard, a paragon of selfless loyalty to the fatherland and the lofty political ideals of the time," the Bulgarian president stressed.

National Assembly Adopts Copyright Bill

AU0206203693 Sofia BTA in English 2013 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 2 (BTA)—Parliament today passed on second reading a Copyright and Related Rights Act. It replaced the effective legislation, adopted in 1951, whose original version copied uncritically the then Copyright Law Regulations of the USSR and was subsequently amended in 1956, 1972 and 1990.

The Council of Ministers, which introduced the new act, argued in its reasoning that the effective legislation was "utterly outdated and largely inconsistent with the modern level of copyright protection in Europe and even in the Third World." During the debate of the bill, MP's stressed that it is urgently needed. The entire subject matter of the law is harmonized with the principles of international law and the relevant international conventions.

The act passed today regulates relations arising from the creation and circulation of works of art, literature and science and codifies the rights of authors and publishers. Experts say the subjects of copyright are listed just as in all modern foreign laws. Copyright extends to any work of literature, arts and science, including incomplete works, provided the product results from creative endeavor. The section determining the holders of copyright says that copyright is recognized even where a work has been circulated under a pseudonym or anonymously.

The act regulates the creation and use of films and other audiovisual products. Copyright to such products belongs to the director and the screenwriter, save as where the director and the producer have agreed in writing to extend the copyright to other holders as well. The creators of musical and literary works, costumes and stage designs hold the copyright to their works.

The act makes express provisions for publishing contacts: They expire at the end of their period or when the print run of the publication is sold out. Other express provisions apply to contracts for reproduction and circulation of sound recordings.

Co-authorship is also regulated in the act.

A special section regulates copyright protection. Breach of copyright (piracy) is punishable by severe fines.

New Civil Alliance Holds First News Conference

AU0206201093 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] On 2 June the Civil Alliance for the Republic gave its first official news conference.

Mr. Aleksandur Tomov, cochairman of the alliance's Initiative Council, pointed out that the new organization strives to reconcile the political forces that now are in a state of confrontation and play the role of a uniting factor of the Bulgarian intelligentsia.

At the end of the week, or at the beginning of next week, the alliance's Initiative Council will set a date for the first national conference, at which the party line that the Civil Alliance for the Republic will follow in parliament and its attitude toward other parliamentary and extra-parliamentarian forces will be established.

Tomorrow at 1400 [1100 GMT], Aleksandur Tomov will meet with the parliamentary faction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, at which he will officially inform them of the founding of the Civil Alliance for the Republic.

KNSB Leader Denies Intention To Resign

AU0206185593 Sofia BTA in English 1746 GMT 2 Jun 93

["KNSB Not Threatened With Split, Its Leader Believes"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, June 2 (BTA)—The incumbent leadership of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (KNSB), one of the two influential labour amalgamations, down from president Krustyu Petkov, will run for re-election at the Second Congress of KNSB, due to be held in October 1993, Prof. Petkov told a news conference here today, denying press speculation of his alleged intention to resign. According to the KNSB rules, other nominations for the leadership may be put forward at the forum as well.

Mr. Petkov said he had changed his mind to retire from the trade union leadership after an informal meeting of the KNSB leaders with representatives of the key federations. He does not think that the amalgamation is threatened with a split for the time being. He expects a devolution of power in the confederation after the congress and said that a team under Vice President Svetoslav Stavrev is working on a project for a new management formula. Mr. Petkov said further on that representatives of different political forces had visited the amalgamation and had expressed the view that the KNSB is the only organization which balances the interests in this country and which is seen as a stabilizing factor.

The confederation succeeded to the only trade union amalgamation which existed under the communist regime and claims a card-holding membership of some 1,700,000. Under the leadership of Krustyu Petkov, it broke off its connections with the Socialist (ex-Communist) Party and established itself as an organization of a left-of-centre orientation. Mr. Petkov believes that the gaps in the political spectrum in the countries of Eastern Europe allow trade unions to exert extrinsic political influence.

'Lax Discipline' Blamed for Servicemen Deaths

AU0206150693 Sofia BTA in English 1213 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Sofia, June 2 (BTA)—1992 saw the death of 44 servicemen in the Bulgarian Army. Part of them died accidentally, part took their own lives and others were shot to death in quarrels. One major reason for the fatalities was lax discipline, encouraging violence against servicemen, experts say.

202 suicides were committed in the last ten years, according to the annual reports of the Armed Forces Prosecutor's Office. This data does not account for failed attempts, however. According to psychiatrists at the Military Medical Academy in Sofia, suicides in the barracks are on the decrease. This is put down to the troops reduction, the better selection of conscripts by recruiting boards and prophylaxis.

According to psychiatrists, mental diseases and aberrations caused 45 percent of suicides in the Army in 1991. Other major causes were failure to adjust to life in the barracks (10 percent) and personal and family problems (31 percent), combined with violence by others.

Lax discipline in the last few years led to a rise in crimes committed by servicemen. According to the Armed Prosecutor's Office, in 1992 two offenders were sentenced for premeditated murder, eight for homicide by inadvertence (excluding road accidents), eight for causing bodily harm with malice aforethought, three for sexual offenses, thirty-five for violence against officers, thirty-three for bodily assault on servicemen and 28 for other outrages.

These facts reflect directly on the attitude of society towards the army. According to a survey, conducted by the Ministry of Defence, 43 percent of recruits display a negative attitude toward service. Almost 60 percent expect to be an object of violence and only 15 percent have positive expectations.

Dismissed General Claims Zhelev Was Pressured

AU0306094493 Sofia REPORTER 7 in Bulgarian No 21, 27 May 93 p 7

[Interview with Lieutenant General Lyutskan Lyutskanov, former commander in chief of the Ground Forces, by Luchezara Zhelyazkova; place and date not given: "The President Was Blackmailed Into Signing the Decree on My Dismissal"]

[Excerpts] [Zhelyazkova] How did your meeting with President Zhelev proceed?

[Lyutskanov] The meeting took place at Mr. Zhelev's request. We mutually examined the situation in the Army after my resignation was demanded. This fact created tension in the Army, especially among the ground forces. Last, but not least, the president politely asked me to think about my future actions, in view of the current situation in the Army. I replied that personal interests should not prevail over the interests of the Bulgarian Armed Forces, and that I would resign to calm the situation within the Ground Forces Staff and within the Army as a whole. Following this, I wrote in my report that I was attacked and that I did not accept the accusations against me. The president agreed with this portion of the text. The very fact that he hesitated 40 days to sign the decree on my dismissal shows that he tried to understand the conflict. However, he was forced to act by the advance announcement on my dismissal. I

expected that as a result of my resignation, the chief culprits responsible for the tension in the Army would do the same. I am talking about the minister of defense and the chief of the General Staff.

[Zhelyazkova] How do you explain the motives for your dismissal?

[Lyutskanov] The request for my resignation was filed on 1 April 1993 by the minister of defense. The reasons are unknown to me, and no one has so far explained them. I still insist that I should be informed of them. [passage omitted]

[Zhelyazkova] What is the prime minister's stand on your case?

[Lyutskanov] Mr. Berov received me on 6 April 1993. I told him that I had not been informed of the reasons for my dismissal and that I did not accept the hints dropped in newspaper reports and articles. I showed him documents proving my case. He answered that a very difficult situation had emerged and if the reports published in the print media should were not true, Minister Aleksandrov should hand in his resignation.

[Zhelyazkova] Have there been cases of officers in the ground forces staff being harassed, following your resignation?

[Lyutskanov] I told the president that I was ready to resign as long as none of the ground forces officers suffer because of me. If they had started dismissing officers from the Ground Forces, I would have asked to be dismissed at once. I trust the president's word!

[Zhelyazkova] How would you evaluate your dismissal against the background of events in our neighboring country Yugoslavia?

[Lyutskanov] Our neighbor's house is burning, while we still play childish games. The new ground forces commander will need four to five months to settle down in his job. I do not claim to be irreplaceable. However, I am familiar with the operational plans for our Western borders. Under the circumstances, it will be difficult to command the ground forces within the coming weeks. Let us knock on wood, and hope that nothing happens in the meantime...

[Zhelyazkova] Are you definitely resigning from the Army?

[Lyutskanov] As far as I know, they intend to offer me the post of military attache. As much as I appreciate the work of military attaches, I consider this proposal to be humiliating for a commander of my rank.

Secret Document Sent to Wrong Address

AU0106170793 Sofia 24 CHASA in Bulgarian 27 May 93 p 2

[24 CHASA Staff Report: "Colonel Antonov Blunders With Secret Document"]

[Text] The top secret and especially important "Instruction on Gathering Intelligence Information About Neighboring Countries," signed by Colonel Arlin Antonov, chief of the National Security Service, has been sent to the employees of Sofia City Hall, because of the chaos in counterintelligence. The fact that the document was seen by more people than the relevant employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is a crime. Furthermore, it could provoke diplomatic scandals, highranking officials in the National Security Service said.

The municipal employees have studied the document and filed it according to the regular proceedings. However, since they obviously cannot implement the orders contained in the document, they returned it through the mail to the National Security Service.

Klaus: 'Dramatic Rise' in Unemployment Not Expected

AU0106133093 Prague CTK in English 1556 GMT 28 May 93

[Text] Ostrava, North Moravia, May 28 (CTK)—Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus told journalists today he did not expect a dramatic rise in unemployment in the Czech Republic.

After a visit to the local labour office, Klaus said there would be a certain amount of growth in unemployment, but no sudden turn, just a continual presence.

There will always be some unemployment. Little or none would be a signal of something bad and stagnant, he said.

He added that local labour offices were irreplaceable for solving unemployment problems. Klaus praised the work of the Ostrava office, the first he has visited, and said he fully supported activities such as cooperation among district labour offices in finding and offering vacant jobs.

The director of the Ostrava Labour Office, Zdenek Prouza, said there were 8,051 registered unemployed at the end of April, representing an unemployment rate of 3.87 percent.

Havel Favors Amending Law on Citizenship

AU0206151393 Prague CTK in English 1425 GMT 30 May 93

[Text] Prague May 30 (CTK)—Czech President Vaclav Havel spoke in favor of introducing the office of ombudsman in his weekly radio broadcast Talks from Lany.

He characterized it as an institution to which citizens may turn in precarious situations, which will give them an advice free of charge, which can help them and which has a certain influence and authority in society.

Now, at the period of economic transformation, when the whole economic and legal systems are changing, said Havel, it would help a lot if citizens knew that there is someone who is completely independent and having understanding for their troubles. Someone who is able to deal with their problems and submit proposals on how to better organize things.

Havel said that the role of ombudsman is currently being played to a certain extent by the President's Office whose Department for Public Affairs receives several hundred complaints daily.

Havel said that citizens complain about their problems in granting Czech citizenship. The adoption of a law on granting and losing Czech citizenship (after Czechoslovakia's split in January 1993) was too quick and the legislation obviously has some mistakes, said Havel. He would welcome if the Czech Parliament considered amending the law.

On his last week's visit to Greece, Havel said the 100,000 USD, which carries the Athinai 93 Prize he was awarded there, will be spent on the reconstruction of Prague Castle (seat of the president).

Klaus Article on Restitution of Church Property

AU0106171293 Prague CESKY DENIK in Czech 28 May 93 pp 1, 12

[Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus article: "Church Property"]

[Text] A new clash, a new confrontation, a new destabilizing element has unnecessarily and ruthlessly invaded the gradually calming—well-deserved after the hectic three-and-half years since November 1989—Czech political scene.

To get closer to a solution, let us distinguish between the core of the problem and the manner of its recent dramatization. Two months ago, the chairmen of the four government coalition parties formulated basic ideas on settling the problem of the status of churches and their property. The opinions were not the same, but a common territory was found. Some (those who have a tangible interest in the settlement) began more actively and others rather passively to further develop this basic framework within this relatively free conceptual outline. Last week, however, the Christian and Democratic Union and the Christian Democratic Party representatives suddenly, and without any previous consultations, tabled material that, in its basic logic, directly contradicts the March agreement. Of course, one can change stands. Nonetheless, since a negative response from the civic parties of the government coalition was to be expected, a new consensus was to be sought patiently. Instead of calm talks, this precarious problem was discussed through the media; it has been politicized and trivialized. Such an approach, I believe, never leads to a solution, and I never use it myself.

If we return from the form to the essence, we must begin by formulating the conditions that represent common grounds for a solution to the issue of the status of churches and their property. Among these conditions are the facts that:

—everybody in this country, with or without faith, voters and supporters of civic or Christian parties, ordinary citizens or representatives of the church hierarchy, are rectifying the poor form in which our country is after four decades of wanton rule of the communist regime

—communism (and the people who implemented it, those who are responsible for its monstrosity) stole and destroyed all kinds of property, not only that of churches, and therefore no reason exists for putting the church property outside or perhaps above all other property

—numerous things (mostly not of property-related character) and particularly human lives and fates cannot be restituted and returned, and therefore we are just

trying to attenuate certain property-related wrongs, and that primarily to specific individuals rather than to some institutions and organizations which cannot be converted to specific individuals

—our objective is a reasonable way out from the perplexity of difficult problems of the early postcommunist period rather than a realization of a utopian idea of the fulfillment of absolute justice in the form of a certain return of time and an artistic reconstruction of the world of 24 February 1948, one day prior to the communist coup.

—there is no way that anybody would take something from the church now, we want to return something and, keeping the interests of all citizens of this country in mind, we are responsibly and without any prejudice seeking precisely what??? [should be returned]

—the entire political dispute, which has been brought to a head now, concerns neither faith nor Christian values or the good of society but rather property, and the material and political advantages linked to it

—the church is one of the institutions and organizations of human society; there is nothing extrahuman or superhuman about it, and therefore the same principles must apply here as to all other institutions and organizations

—the status and material circumstances of churches, Catholic or non-Catholic, must be defined anew and clearly—with regard paid to the property that used to belong to them in the past—so they can freely continue in their development.

All this leads me to the pragmatic conclusion that

1. A partial restitution of the property must be the pinnacle rather than the beginning of the new arrangement in the relationship between the church and the state, with the understanding that the final goal is a complete spiritual and maximum material separation between the state and the church.

2. Churches (and religious associations) should be registered, they should become legal persons according to our legal code, and the state support should be granted to them according to the norms and regulations that apply to providing state funds to the organizations of spiritual, humanitarian, and educational character.

3. An amendment to the Law on Income Tax must provide for a possibility of tax assignation, which would enable the taxpayers to decide directly on the use of a precisely defined part of their taxes, among other things, on the church purposes.

4. A new law should be drafted on the care of historical monuments and the contribution of the state toward their maintenance and repairs.

5. Some property-related wrongs should be alleviated on the basis of a consensus of all principal political entities in our country regarding the list of this property.

I believe that a solution can be found on this basis. A civic society must reject, however, any unilateral ultimatums, and depend on the general civic principle directed toward the whole, it cannot permit a breakdown of this whole by advocating inconsistent partial interests, and it must not give in to the temptation of transferring this dispute to newspapers, where it does not belong. The issue now is neither religious freedom nor Christian ideals.

Klaus Calls For More IFC Direct Investment

AU0206145793 Prague CTK in English 1214 GMT 31 May 93

[Text] Prague May 31 (CTK)—The International Finance Corporation (IFC) should more actively invest directly in Czech enterprises, Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus said today after his meeting with IFC Executive President William Ryrie.

The IFC is a separate legal entity of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). It focuses on the development and funding of the private and cooperative sectors.

Klaus thinks it is up to the IFC to decide where it wants to invest, Ryrie said. He believes that the Czech Republic has been switching over to the market economy most quickly of all Central European countries, and the privatisation process is progressing well.

Ryrie recalled that the IFC had been helping the transition of the Czech (Czechoslovak before the Federation's split) economy to the market scheme for more than three years. He pointed out that the IFC did not require government guarantees and shouldered by itself all possible risks involved.

At present, the IFC has been preparing a loan of 1.4 billion DM for the Skoda car making joint-stock company based in Mlada Boleslav, Central Bohemia. It took part in the privatisation of Zivnostenska Banka (tradesmen's bank).

I am not much pleased with the IFC's activity being limited to capital investment for only the most famous joint ventures such as Skoda-Volkswagen, Klaus said.

The Czech Republic has been an IFC member since January 15. The former Czechoslovakia joined the IFC in September 1990.

Zieleniec Comments on Talks in Egypt

AU0206151593 Prague CTK in English 0602 GMT 31 May 93

[Text] Prague, May 31 (CTK)—Egypt is traditionally a key to the Arab world and to the African continent. That is also why we consider the just ended official visit to Egypt most important, Czech Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec told CTK last night.

Egypt plays an irreplaceable role in the peace process in the Middle East and a unique role in mediating relations between the Arab world and Western-type civilizations, Zieleniec said on his return from a two-day visit to Egypt.

The Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict was one of the topics discussed in Egypt.... Three cultures are in conflict in there—Western Christian, Eastern Christian and Islamic. A lasting settlement of the problem requires that also representatives from important Islamic countries, mainly Turkey and Egypt, sit down to the negotiating table, Zieleniec said.

During his visit, Zieleniec signed an agreement on support and mutual protection of investment. Egypt displayed readiness to seek methods of repaying its debt in trade with the former Czechoslovakia, which originated after 1990. Earlier debts had already been settled.

Zieleniec met in Egypt with Premier 'Atif Muhammad Najib Sidqi, Foreign Minister 'Amr Muhammad Musa, and Minister of State for International Cooperation Maurice Makramallah.

[Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech on 31 May on page 1 carries a 300-word CTK report on the conclusion of Zieleniec's visit to Egypt, which specifies that Egypt owes the Czech Republic "around $35 million for the years 1990-91."]

Ruml Interviewed on Refugees, Slovak Borders

AU0206135693 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 27 May 93 p 3

[Interview with Interior Minister Jan Ruml by Jaroslav Hrbek; place and date not given: "Unilateral Steps Are Not Good for Mutual Relations"]

[Text] The number of people coming to the Czech Republic—to pursue their vision of welfare in Germany—is permanently increasing. The amendments to the German asylum laws will stop the influx of immigrants. The Czech Republic could then become their refuge. HOSPODARSKE NOVINY asked Minister Jan Ruml for an interview on this subject.

[Hrbek] How can the Czech Republic defend itself against illegal migration?

[Ruml] In the government, we have presented a concept for policy in the sphere of migration, which is solving our problems in a complex manner. We have drafted principles for a new visa policy. Amendments to the law on refugees (the Czech asylum law) is one of the planned measures by which we are trying to simplify and accelerate asylum procedures and make them more strict, in a certain way. We are proposing some organizational and technical solutions. We intend to make changes to the penalty code, which is expected to penalize the crime of people-smuggling more severely. The Czech Republic should also be connected to the international information center collecting data on migration. It is very important to finalize the vast spectrum of bilateral agreements on returning immigrants from third countries. The greatest problem is, however, with the Czech-Slovak borders, where the negotiations with the Slovak Republic are in deadlock.

[Hrbek] When will the set of readmission treaties be complete?

[Ruml] It would be optimal if the entire set of readmission treaties on refugees were concluded sooner than the amendment to the asylum law comes into force in Germany. The Czech Republic has concluded such a treaty with Austria, Poland, and Slovakia. We are conducting expert discussion with Hungary, and we are preparing a treaty with Germany. We have established our first contacts with Romania, in that matter. The entire process is coming to an end. I am not saying that it will coincide with the date the changes in the German asylum law come into force—nevertheless, there should not be a significant delay.

[Hrbek] How is the situation at the beginning of July going to develop, when amendments to German asylum law are expected to come into force?

[Ruml] The amendments can cause two phenomena. It is expected that the flow of refugees to Germany will become weaker. On the other hand, the Czech Republic may become the target country. The standard of living is definitely higher in our country than that in Romania or Albania. Of course, the German side will be stricter when protecting its borders, especially if the readmission treaty is not signed with the Czech Republic. Refugees may be stopped here, and they may consider the Czech Republic to be their target country.

[Hrbek] Will the Czech Republic be prepared for that?

[Ruml] This will depend, of course, on the number of refugees. We are estimating that there are between 80,000 and 120,000 refugees at present. If their number grows above 150,000 or 200,000, then the answer is no. Not organizationally, nor financially. The Czech Republic cannot be prepared for that, in principle. The term is too short and we will try to avoid it. This means insisting on borders with Slovakia and having the possibility to return people who come illegally to our country, and to introduce the visa duty there were it is necessary.

[Hrbek] Last week, Germany presented its draft readmission treaty. Does it contain any controversial points?

[Ruml] It is a standard readmission treaty. Germany wants to be given more time for them to prove illegal entry in their country. This is why Germany is suggesting a six-month period. We are proposing three months. I believe that this is not the principal issue. I will discuss it with Minister Seiters. For us, this is not such a big obstacle.

[Hrbek] When do you expect the treaty to be signed?

[Ruml] This is a principal matter for us. We will not sign the treaty while we do not have borders with Slovakia. Of course, I do not want to drag Germany into our disputes with Slovakia. We are saying that this is our internal problem that we must solve ourselves.

[Hrbek] Germany will also present a draft treaty on cooperation to prevent illegal immigration, which is linked to some financial assistance. What amount is involved, and what will it be spent on?

[Ruml] I do not know the amount. In this case, we want to negotiate. Germany agreed on 120 million German marks with Poland. We must set certain priorities and then come up with a specific proposal. This amount will certainly not exceed the amount Poland received. I am of the opinion that financial means should be spent on the technological and organizational improvement of the situation in the Alien Registration Police and the Border Police. Because of political reasons, it is impossible to spent the German funds on the construction of the Czech-Slovak borders. It is an important security measure which is a matter for the Czech Government to solve.

[Hrbek] Do you believe that negotiations with the Slovak Republic on the establishment of border crossing will be successful?

[Ruml] I believe it is impossible not to reach agreement on the establishment of border crossings. I really do not see any logical reason for that, apart from the fact that the Slovak side is trying to play its political card and show that it is the Czech Republic that wants to divide Europe. This card is slightly false, however, since we are not trying to build an iron curtain, and the proposed measures will not complicate the lives of citizens of the Czech and the Slovak Republics. This regime is oriented toward foreign nationals from third countries. It is an absolutely normal matter everywhere in Europe. I can imagine that Slovakia would not sign the treaty. The draft will be passed to all ministries, who will append their comments, and then it will be presented in the government. A similar course of action should also take place in Slovakia.

[Hrbek] What will happen if the Slovak Government is unwilling to sign the treaty?

[Ruml] Of course, we have also considered this possibility. This leads to the idea of unilateral steps, that is, to the protection of our state borders. We have drafted a certain concept for if we have to implement this alternative. I would not be very happy if this happened, however. Unilateral steps are not good for mutual relations.

[Hrbek] How long will the Czech side wait?

[Ruml] If the results of our negotiations do not lead to the clarification of the entire matter—it really looked once that no treaty with Slovakia was possible—then I will begin presenting my specific suggestions to the Czech Government.

[Hrbek] According to the treaties that have been concluded, the Czech Republic must consult visa policy with the Slovak Republic. Is there an agreement possible in that sphere?

[Ruml] Here we have a serious problem in that we may not reach agreement on some countries. Today, it is almost sure that we will not reach agreement on Romania. We have two alternatives here. Either to surrender regarding the visa duty for Romanians and adjust ourselves to Slovakia's policy, or, there is second possibility, which would mean, in fact, abrogating the treaty with the Slovak Republic, the one which contains the clause on identical visa policies. Of course, the readmission treaty is a part of that treaty. It would be inconvenient for the Czech Republic to abrogate it. At this moment, it is important to carefully weigh all pros and cons—we should use laboratory scales for that purpose—we should weigh what is advantageous and disadvantageous to us. I do not want to be ahead of the situation. First, negotiations have been held, and the Slovak Republic is still reluctant to introduce a visa policy for Romanians.

Government Issues Statement on Church Property

AU0206152493 Prague CTK in English 2144 GMT 31 May 93

[Text] Text of Government Statement on Church Property

Preamble

The Government of the Czech Republic recognises the important role of churches and religious societies in a democratic, pluralistic and free society, and therefore, in conjunction with churches and religious societies, expresses itself freely in favour of:

1) Respect for the position and importance of internally fully autonomous churches and religious societies at standards of European democratically-oriented neutral states;

2) Support for the fulfillment of the mission of churches and religious societies as active spiritual and moral entities for the protection of society and for publicly beneficial activities and in connection with the creation of the independent Czech state they have decided to establish anew relations between the state, churches and religious societies.

The establishment of new relations between the state, churches and religious societies (henceforth designated merely as churches) stemming from and respecting the transformation of society will be achieved in the following steps:

I. The outline of a targeted solution to church relations as a long-term task.

II. Progress during the transitional period.

III. Settlement of several church property grievances.

I. The outline of a targeted solution to church relations as a long-term task.

The goal is for churches to be, within the framework of the state, entirely independent spiritually and, as far as is possible for them, materially as well.

II. The transitional period.

1) The transitional period will be dedicated to the preparation and passage of a new law on church compensation and the fulfillment of standing legal norms and regulations determining the economic security of churches, freedom of belief and the status of churches and religious societies, and the registration of churches and religious societies. The new law should proceed from these bases:
a) with registration, a church will become a legal person according to our legal system;
b) registration of a church per se will not form the basis of a claim for state support;
c) after the transitional period, the state will grant a church support on the basis of legal norms and regulations applicable to the granting of state resources to spiritual, humanitarian and educationally oriented organisations so that the spiritual independence of the church and the execution of its mission are not disturbed;

2) Preparation of a new income tax law.

This amendment will add to the income tax law the possibility of assigning taxes, which will enable taxpayers to decide the disposition of a precisely specified amount of taxes for, among other things, the needs of churches, while preserving concurrently other standard forms of support and contributions.

3) Preparation of a new law on care of monuments.

This law will set general regulations for state support to owners of cultural monuments, in this case churches, for the maintenance and repair of these monuments.

III. Settlement of several church property grievances.

The settlement of several church property grievances will be carried out with respect to property which was in the ownership of the church as of 25 February 1948, and done via a listing of methods with a clear specification of claims.

1) Property will only be returned which is owned by the state or a community at the time the claim is made, and then only with their agreement. The return of property should not have the following consequences:
a) fundamental disruption of the process of privatisation;
b) fundamental disruption of the functioning and performance of state administration;
c) a deep effect on economic relations which would seriously injure third parties;
d) effects on state obligations abroad;
e) fundamental impact on state or municipal (public) budgets.

2) Only the following types of property may be named in claims:
a) buildings used for religious services, except cultural monuments of national significance linked to Czech statehood (i.e. St. Vitus' Cathedral);
b) clerical residences;
c) non-movable property which on 25 February 1948 served the church for charitable or other social, health or educational purposes. This non-movable property may be returned on certain conditions, so that the existing use of the property, in cases such as are necessary for the preservation of health, social, cultural or other state-guaranteed infrastructures, is preserved;
d) gardens, parks and other areas, as long as they formed on 25 February 1948 a functional unit with a returned building;
e) burial grounds, places of pilgrimage and other holy places;
f) movable items of worship which served on 25 February 1948 exclusively for purposes of religious worship;
g) designated book collections, but only under the condition that they be accessible for study purposes and that they be unable to be removed;

3) Churches are not granted:
a) compensation for non-movable or movable items not returned in agreement with the above conditions;
b) compensation for devalued returned property;
c) lost profits.

Ministry Takes Steps To Curb Wage Increases

AU0206152393 Prague CTK in English 1921 GMT 31 May 93

[Text] Prague May 31 (CTK)—The Ministry of Industry and Trade has noticed an extreme growth in wages this year in 24 state industrial and construction enterprises, Minister of Industry and Trade Vladimir Dlouhy announced.

These are companies where the wage growth index exceeded the index of 128 against a permissible 105 and the number of employees dropped by less than 20 percent, Dlouhy told a recent press conference. Some of these companies include Tesla Radiospoj Prague, where wages increased 39 percent, Elektromont Brno (31 percent) and Realistic and Blex Karlovy Vary (West Bohemia—34 percent).

Wages in state industrial and construction companies grew in the first quarter of the year by 22.6 percent against the same period last year, according to the minister. The number of employees in these companies

dropped by 9.7 percent. The volume of wages increased by 10.7 percent, while industrial production dropped by 6.9 percent, Dlouhy added.

* * *

Minister Dlouhy met with representatives of 15 state businesses today to discuss the causes of this year's rise in salaries. After the meeting the minister said he would place sanctions on some of the businesses by the end of the week and was planning on personnel changes in probably five of them.

Among the businesses taking part in the meeting were those which were operating at a loss and exhibited the largest difference in wage growth and economic output.

The goal of the meeting, among other things, was to obtain certain guarantees that salary levels would stabilise. Above all, employee wages should be established in accordance with business performance, the minister emphasised.

The reasons for the rise in salaries, according to the businesses which took part in the meeting, included wage regulations put in place late last year, the results of which appeared in the first half of this year. Another cause was the big competition for workers by private businesses and possibilities to work abroad. But none of the reasons were good enough, according to Dlouhy, to cause salaries to increase at businesses which were operating at a loss. On the other hand, he added, salary levels at several of them last year had been more than below average.

The minister added that the recent tripartite meetings (attended by representatives of government, employers and trade unions) were disappointing in their refusal to include the government's worries over wage development in their final document. He pointed out that the economy of the Czech Republic was the only one of those formerly centrally-planned which had been able to completely deregulate wages. Therefore it was natural that the government carefully evaluate the situation, Dlouhy concluded.

Italian Mafia, CIS Gangs Becoming Established

AU2805144293 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 27 May 93 p 2

["(jem, li)"-signed report: "The Italian Mafia Is Gradually Establishing Itself in the Czech Republic"]

[Text] Prague—Organized crime is gradually beginning to flourish in the Czech Republic. According to police reports, the Italian Mafia, the Camorra, has been establishing bases for itself in Prague, Brno, Olomouc and other cities since 1991. At the moment, it is building up a network of stores trading in fake goods. The police think it is cooperating closely with the Sicilian branch of the Mafia, the Cosa Nostra.

For this reason, Interior Minister Jan Ruml departed yesterday for Rome where he is due to meet his Italian counterpart to discuss cooperation between the two countries' police services in wiping out organized crime. Minister Ruml, along with police representatives from some 40 countries, will also take part in a conference on the Balkans drug route.

The Balkans drug route has been diverted to the north because of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia and this has led to an increase in the amount of drugs being conveyed across the republic. As a consequence of this change of route, temporary storage places for heroin have—according to police reports—already begun to surface in Prague.

The Czech Republic is not, however, just a transfer or transit area for drugs. Domestic criminal gangs are exporting "homemade drugs" such as pervitin, braun, and speed to the West. The police have admitted that it is not within their powers to catalog this illegal trade or to prevent it.

Gangs based in the Commonwealth of Independent States are also using the republic for their operations. According to the figures from the Russian Prosecutor's Office, there are 3,000 of them and they are notorious for their brutality and their links to the political leadership of the former Soviet Union. The gangs are oriented toward prostitution and trade in radioactive materials, weapons, Semtex explosives, and drugs.

According to experts from the American special authority dealing with illegal financial operations, the Czech Republic is one of the countries in which it is very easy to launder dirty money. There are no laws here that would make it possible to supervise the movement of money.

According to police sources, however, organized crime has not yet fully developed in the Czech Republic. International criminal organizations are—at the moment—aiming to buy various entities within the framework of privatization. In comparison with other European countries, therefore, the Czech Republic has one of the lower crime rates. Fewer crimes were committed here in 1992 per 100,000 inhabitants than in Holland, Germany, Austria, or Switzerland. Of course, break-ins have increased seven-fold during the past five years. Ordinary theft has increased five-fold. Criminal activity among children and youths in particular has significantly increased.

Meciar Addresses Current Issues at Zilina Rally

AU0106172493 Bratislava REPUBLIKA in Slovak 28 May 93 p 2

[TA SR report: "Replying to Humor With Humor; Vladimir Meciar Met With the Citizens of Zilina"]

[Text] Slovak Prime Minister and Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [HZDS] Chairman Vladimir Meciar opened his "meeting after one year" with voters and sympathizers from Zilina district yesterday by drawing up a balance sheet of HZDS electoral promises and sketching the prospects of the Slovak Republic's further development.

He rejected the view of the Czech Republic that it was inevitable to build a firm border between the two republics. He voiced disagreement with the endeavor of the Czech Republic to deal with the migration of third country nationals to Western countries via the Czech Republic by means of the refugees' indiscriminate return via the territory of Slovakia. "We are not going to become an assembly center [zberne stredisko] for 130,000 destitute foreigners annually. Slovakia cannot afford that for financial reasons," he said.

Asked how he was going to settle scores with [Slovak comedian] Milan Markovic and other so-called comedians who ridicule the government and its highest representatives, as the citizen put it, Vladimir Meciar replied that one must respond to humor with humor. "If you do not like their programs, write to Slovak Television about it because I have no influence over those programs," he added.

Regarding the government's ability to function, Vladimir Meciar conceded that it did not always respond to urgent problems promptly enough. Some of these problems become stuck at the level of desk officers and only inspection checks of tasks reveal their nonfulfillment. He rejected the government's reconstruction for political reasons but said that personnel changes in some ministerial posts would be unavoidable. Citizens also inquired about the prime minister's ideas concerning the so-called new Marshal plan, which he put forward to his foreign partners during his visits to Great Britain and the United States. Vladimir Meciar explained that a special fund should be established, to which the advanced Western states would contribute certain sums. A commission or some other steering body would allocate these funds to post-communist states to finance some transformation processes, to stabilize their currency, and to support other economic activities. Replying to another question, Vladimir Meciar said that he did not perceive the process of growing armament in Hungary as a direct threat to Slovakia. "We are in favor of the opposite development, according to the European concept of bringing nations closer to one another and building a Europe without frontiers," he stressed. He specified that the Hungarian Republic is to receive military equipment worth over $800 million from Russia, the United States, and the FRG within the framework of the reconstruction of its Army. Referring to the political parties' current struggle for power, Vladimir Meciar said that, so far, none of them has gained a profile corresponding to the image that it would like to project.

Two Right-Wing Parties Merge To Form 'KDS'

AU0206151193 Prague CTK in English 0607 GMT 31 Mar 93

[Text] Bratislava, May 31 (CTK)—A new right-wing political subject, the Conservative Democratic Party (KDS), emerged in Slovakia on Sunday [30 May] when the Party of Conservative Democrats (SKD) and the Civic Democratic Party of Slovakia (ODSS) merged at a congress held in Liptovsky Mikulas, Central Slovakia.

Pavol Hagyari, leading representative of the SKD, was elected KDS chairman.

Ladislav Jakab, SKD press secretary, told CTK that the KDS espoused the traditions of European Christian civilization. Most delegates to the merger congress stressed the necessity to unite right-leaning forces and to form a strong political subject in Slovakia.

Martin Kvetko, honorary chairman of the Democratic Party (DS), told the congress his party was ready to closely cooperate with the KDS. He proposed setting up a joint committee to prepare the creation of one strong right-wing political party.

Jakab said that former rank-and-file members of the Communist Party also could join the new party. But this does not apply to communist functionaries and members of the former People's Militia, a paramilitary force of the Communist Party, he added.

None of the three above mentioned parties—the SKD, the ODSS, and the DS—is represented in parliament.

[Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 31 May on page 2 carries a 450-word Martin Krno report on the above congress. The report renders the vernacular name of the new party as "Konzervativna demokraticka strana (KDS)."]

Official Claims Serbs Pose No Immediate Danger

LD0206172593 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Report by correspondents Dora Adorjan and Krisztina Antalffy from the Hungarian National Assembly session in Budapest]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Laszlo Kovacs, chairman of the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, attended today's meeting of the Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee.

[Begin Kovacs recording] Hungary is not threatened by any immediate danger and it is not threatened by any danger at the state level, because while Serbia does have an army that could represent a danger of this kind, the Serb leadership does not have militarily attainable objectives with regard to Hungary. It does not have the appropriate economic background for an attack against Hungary, since that would demand new and enormous sacrifices from the population. There are no plans in this regard as far as experts are aware. And it is also obvious that the Serb leadership would not be keen on opening up a new front. [end recording]

This was said by the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee during a break in that body's closed session. According to Laszlo Kovacs's briefing, the deputies heard the leading officials of the Foreign and Defense Ministries and of the Hungarian Embassy in Belgrade about the effect which the South Slav crisis is having on Hungary's security. On the basis of what was heard at the meeting, Laszlo Kovacs believes that Hungary's influence in the matter of settling the crisis is diminishing in connection with the fact that there is also a decline in the West's role and also in the chances of an international settlement.

Russia To Deliver MiG-29's as Debt Repayment

LD0206175493 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] The Defense Ministry has announced that this year Hungary is expected to receive MiG-29 interceptor fighters as repayment of the former Soviet Union's debt to Hungary. Levente Suekoesd asked Sandor Turjan, deputy state secretary for the ministry, for details.

[Begin recording] [Turjan] Expert talks were held in accordance with the intergovernmental agreement concluded in November 1992. These talks have concluded, and there will now be a government decision on implementing the agreement in full.

[Suekoesd] Will the delivery of these few—I do not know the number—MiG-29 fighter planes amount to the full $800 million compensation?

[Turjan] As a matter of fact, the MiG-29 planes do not cover the entire $800 million. We would like to purchase the rest—the systems, air defense missiles, and armor-piercing missiles—and all these together will cover, in effect, the $800 million debt.

[Suekoesd] How many planes will we get?

[Turjan] I cannot reply to that yet, for these talks have not yet been finalized as there are still open questions; nor has the government decision been made yet. But I would like to say that we shall still remain well below the limit laid down by the international agreements for the number of planes even when these fighters arrive.

No decision has been made about the fate of the existing planes, whether we will decommission planes or increase the number of planes, but whatever happens, we shall adhere to the international treaties, proscriptions.

[Suekoesd] Does Hungary have enough pilots?

[Turjan] Training will begin even before the arrival of the planes. For proper training, we would like to train as many men as the number of planes we will have in order for us to be able to use these planes appropriately.

[Suekoesd] When do you expect these planes to arrive?

[Turjan] Look, obviously we would like these fighters to arrive as soon as possible.

[Suekoesd] Can they be expected as early as this year?

[Turjan] They can be expected this year, near the end of the year. [end recording]

It must be inserted here that international treaties permit Hungary to have 180 such planes.

Interview With Minister Szabo on Budget Issues

AU0106161493 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 29 May 93 p 1

["varga"-signed interview with Finance Minister Ivan Szabo in Szeged on 28 May: "If They Do Not Accept the Supplementary Budget Then Elections Will Have To Be Called, Ivan Szabo Claims"]

[Text] Regarding the supplementary budget, Istvan Csurka said that he did not agree with the proposals. To what extent can this make the bill's parliamentary acceptance questionable? Our correspondent asked Finance Minister Szabo after the closure of the economists congress in Szeged on 28 May.

[Szabo] Istvan Csurka did not vote for the budget in 1992, therefore, I do not think that Csurka's and his supporters' disagreement will cause any problems to the coalition this time, either. In fact, he did not even approve the bill on value-added tax [VAT] in 1992, therefore, in my view, there is no change compared to last year.

[MAGYAR NEMZET] Does the government expect the opposition to support it again, just as it did in the case of the Hungarian-Ukrainian basic agreement?

[Szabo] I do not rely on the opposition's votes at the debate on the budget bill. If we had a contrary situation

and the opposition had prepared and submitted this draft bill, I would not vote for it, either, because this is politics rather than economics.

[MAGYAR NEMZET] What will happen if you cannot make parliament accept the draft bill on the VAT which is to be submitted in September?

[Szabo] The budget deficit will remain the same, we just will not have a law. However, I am afraid that elections will have to be called if we cannot put the VAT bill or the supplementary budget through parliament.

HDF Parliamentary Group Expels Csurka, Others

AU0206170193 Budapest MTI in English 0639 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, 2 Jun (MTI)—The parliamentary group of Hungary's senior government coalition party, the Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) [MDF], expelled from its ranks popular-nationalist Istvan Csurka, Gyula Zacsek, Izabella B. Kiraly and Istvan Balas, as well as Jozsef Debreczeni and Istvan Elek, who belong to the party's popular-liberal wing, at a meeting on Tuesday night [1 June].

At the beginning of the session, Debreczeni and Elek announced they wish to "suspend" their membership in the HDF, but would stay in the parliamentary group and continue to support the government in the parliament.

Csurka later told reporters he was relieved to have been expelled from the faction.

He said he would proceed on with the movement "Hungarian Way" founded by him. The movement has been fiercely critical of the government for failing to carry through the change of system.

Although Csurka was removed from the party's parliamentary group but not from the party itself, he did not exclude the latter possibility.

To an MTI query, Csurka said he had no intention to leave the party voluntarily.

Csurka is a member of the party presidium.

Vice President Sandor Lezsak, acting president since Monday [31 May] under a presidium decision, said further measures would be considered at Wednesday's presidium session and the weekend national board meeting.

Lezsak thought most Hungarian Way followers would not turn away from the HDF.

Now the question is how Csurka will be able to withdraw honourably, Lezsak added.

The government last week submitted a supplementary draft budget to Parliament setting the planned deficit for this year as HUF 215 billion, instead of HUF 185 billion. This would also involve raising the lower VAT brackets of 0 and 6 percent to a uniform 10 percent and other austerity measures. (VAT has had three levels, 0, 6 and 25 percent, since January 1, 1993.)

Twenty-nine members of HDF's parliamentary arm, standing close to Istvan Csurka, founded the National Policy Group Hungarian Justice last week. They had voted against the government on a few occasions already before.

Parliament has to approve the supplementary budget by the end of June, when the 1993 agreement between Hungary and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will become due for signing. The agreement, which was negotiated in Washington in May, calls for curtailing central social-welfare spending and boosting budget revenues.

The opposition parties said they would vote down the supplementary budget. If the 29-strong platform within the HDF faction rejects the supplementary budget, the coalition will still retain its majority provided it has the support of the Christian Democratic People's Party (CDPP).

The CDPP drew strong criticism from Prime Minister Jozsef Antall, who spoke on television on Monday, on account of the statement CDPP President Laszlo Surjan, minister of social welfare, made several months ago that the party wanted to play an "opposition role" within the government coalition.

In the same interview, Antall made it clear he would not govern from a minority position. Accordingly, if parliament turns down the supplementary draft budget, the government will resign and the May 1994 general elections have to be brought forward.

Cooperation Agreement Concluded With China

LD0206144593 Budapest MTI in English 1422 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Budapest, June 2 (MTI)—The Republic of Hungary and the Chinese People's Republic have concluded a two-year cultural, educational and scientific cooperation agreement in Beijing, the Hungarian Ministry of Culture and Education informed MTI on Wednesday.

The document was signed on May 31 by Hungarian Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and Education Elemer Biszterszky, and by Chinese Deputy Minister of Culture Liu-te Zhou [name as received].

According to the Hungarian Ministry, the sides stressed that the work schemes provide a good basis for intensifying relations, alongside showing respect for, and taking into consideration, the changes in the two countries.

The Chinese side declared that, alongside the programmes actualized at the state level, it wishes to encourage direct cooperation between the institutions, as well as promote the studies of Chinese students in Hungarian institutes of higher-education on a paying basis.

Suchocka Writes to EC on Economic Reforms

LD0206222893 Warsaw PAP in English 2213 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 2—Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka on Wednesday [2 June] addressed a letter to prime ministers of the twelve EC states and the president of the Commission of the European Communities and handed it to ambassadors of the European Communities' member states.

In her letter the prime minister pointed to the fact that the meeting of the Council of Europe in Copenhagen takes place at a time when Polish reforms entered a very important stage. Results of economic animation and growth are distinctly visible which proves that the policy pursued by the Polish government is right.

Hanna Suchocka stressed that Polish decisiveness in implementing the reform could serve as an example for other states which are currently undergoing economic transformations. She noted, however, that some social groups in Poland which bear the burden of transformations are increasingly disillusioned and call for a change in the cabinet's policy and resignation from some reforms. The government, though, is determined to counteract these tendencies.

The PM also pointed to a recorded deficit in trade with the EC which surpassed one eighth of the Polish export to the EC and observed that this lack of balance constitutes a further burden for the process of transformations in Poland.

She added that if the Copenhagen meeting of states confirms and increases the committment of the EC for Poland and other sides of the European treaties, this will have a positive impact on the process of reform.

Ms Suchocka emphasized three aspects of the EC-Poland relations. She mentioned as very important a distinct political declaration of the EC that it sees Poland and other associated countries as future members of the European union and stressed that Poland is interested in the development of a political dialogue with the EC, leading to the country's gradual participation in the mechanism of European cooperation and common foreign and defence policies.

She remarked that the development of commercial contacts between Poland and the EC is one of the most efficient means of the EC's aid to the process of reform in Poland and called on the communities to accelerate and facilitate the process of opening their markets to Polish products.

She stressed the importance of the PHARE programme which is the source of the most substantial assistance to Poland but added that the existent programmes and procedures should be adapted to new needs.

EC Grants 4.4 Million ECU's To Develop Bank System

LD0206195593 Warsaw PAP in English 1930 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 2—Finance Minister Jerzy Osiatynski and head of the Mission of the Commission of the European Communities in Warsaw Alexander Dijckmeester signed an agreement here Wednesday [2 June] on granting Poland 4.4 million ECU [European currency units] assistance to develop its public finances and banking system.

Granting Poland 4.4 million ECU is part of the Fiesta programme whose funds come from the Phare budget. 3.4 million ECU will be assigned to restructure Finance Ministry departments drawing up and implementing the budget. One million ECU will go as assistance to small banks to finance the training of personnel and to pay for services by foreign advisers.

The PHARE programme was organized to finance EC assistance to change economic systems of countries in Central and Eastern Europe. In 1989-1990, Poland received 200-million ECU assistance annually. This year, the EC Commission will increase this sum to 225 million ECU.

Export Earnings Down 10 Percent From 1992

LD0206142193 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] At the end of the first fourth months of this year the deficit in the current balance of payments has reached $845 million. By the end of April the profit from exports came to $4 billion—10 percent lower in comparison with the equivalent period last year. The expenditure on imports was 18 percent higher than last year. These figures were presented at a news conference held at the National Polish Bank. According to the bank the low level of exports this year may have been caused by a lower demand for Polish goods, particularly in Western Europe.

Trillions of Zlotys Needed To Control Odra Pollution

LD0206102993 Warsaw PAP in English 0940 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Wroclaw, June 2—Some 3.4 trillion zlotys (about 182 million U.S. dollars) will be needed to control water pollution of the Odra River and the Baltic Sea, Jan Miodonski of the Regional Board for Water Economy in Wroclaw has reported.

The project, based on World Bank research from 1991-92, envisages the construction of three large water treatment plants and modernisation of existing sewage treatment plants. The scheme also provides for technological upgrading in three chemical plants, and restructuring of underground water management.

The World Bank research aimed to identify priority investments which would make it possible to improve water quality in the Odra River. The implementation of the project will enable Poland to meet the binding regulations of the Helsinki convention for protection of the Baltic Sea waters.

The biggest Odra polluters in southwest Poland include the nitrogen plant in Kedzierzyn Kozle, the "Rokita" chemical factories in Brzeg Dolny and Boleslawiec, the "Polska Miedz" copper combine in Lubin, and the towns of Glogow, Wroclaw and Zielona Gora.

Political Situation 'Cause for Concern'

AU0206120593 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 29-30 May 93 p 2

[Commentary by Alina Grabowska: "Vacancy"]

[Text] The government of Anna Suchocka has been overthrown by the combined forces of the postcommunist left-wing Social Democratic Party of the Republic of Poland, the anticommunist right-wing Center Accord and the Movement for the Republic, the ultra-anticommunist Polish Action, the Solidarity trade union, the Union of Real Politics (whose aim is to reduce drastically the rights of trade unions), and several other parties and groups, all of which are normally divided on virtually every single issue, but this time were united in a firm desire to overthrow the Suchocka government.

Just one vote determined the government's defeat. Was it the vote of former minister Zbigniew Dyka, a member of the government coalition? This is rather significant because Dyka did not vote despite stringent party rules. He was obviously not concerned how this would look in the eyes of the public, and it looks like an act of pure revenge for the fact that Suchocka had earlier dismissed him from ministerial office.

In a sense, the vote was fortuitous, for just one vote has decided the future course of events, whether a country of 40 million people in the heart of Europe will collapse into a state of chaos, unable to fend for itself (which need not be the case, of course).

The Thursday Sejm debate and Friday's vote lead to several conclusions. Let us set aside for a moment the question "was this a good government?" Despite Mrs. Suchocka's popularity, opinions on whether hers was a good government are divided. A very large number of citizens never felt any direct improvement in their lives. In its information policy, the government adopted a very cautions and mild approach. It never put up any sharp defense against the accusations made against it by the press, which wanted to see the government collapse at all costs. The government's program was never satisfactorily clear. No one paused to consider whether, for example, a two percent rise in the gross national product would bring it personal success. I suspect that many of the government's actions were difficult to understand.

But regardless of what the Poles in Poland think, the important thing is what the rest of the world thinks of Poland. In the West, the Suchocka government was viewed simply as the best because it guaranteed a stable control over the state administration. This opinion was shaped by positive factors such as a reduction in inflation, a four percent rise in industrial output, and the said two percent rise in the gross national product.

Poland's situation is a cause for concern. The worst thing would be for the country to enter a period of drawn-out party negotiations and agreements on possible coalitions, powerlessness, and stagnation. New elections might indeed be the only solution.

Defense Minister Views Security Issues

WS0106134493 Warsaw Radio Zet in Polish 1615 GMT 28 May 93

[Studio interview with National Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz by correspondent Jacek Skowronski; from the "Guest of Radio Z" program—recorded]

[Text] [Skowronski] How does the political situation influence the atmosphere in the Army? Is there any relationship between the political situation and the atmosphere within the Army?

[Onyszkiewicz] I am sure that there is. People in the Army are citizens before all else and are not indifferent to the affairs of state. However, this does not mean that all major political discussions are automatically transferred to the Army. Fortunately, not.

[Skowronski] Have we reached the point when the Army is beyond politics and remains impartial regardless of who rules the state?

[Onyszkiewicz] I would like to believe that we have. The Army is legally beyond politics, although, being one of the most important instruments of national policy, it is an instrument of politics. The Army keeps away from all sorts of political discussions and games, and we appreciate this.

[Skowronski] What demonstrates that the Army is apolitical now? Have there been changes that would make us believe that this is the Army of the Third Republic and no matter what happens, it will remain the Army of the Third Republic?

[Onyszkiewicz] One can never be positive. I do not want to furnish examples of other countries in which an army of good traditions tried to play a political role—take France in 1950's. In my opinion, the apolitical status of the Polish Army is not just a result of legislative acts, but also a result of a common belief that the Army should stay away from politics. The Army has had unpleasant experiences before; it was prescribed a certain role in December 1981. Besides, this apolitical status is an advantage. Taking a political stance in Poland, would also mean participation in drafting the budget—who should be given more, who less, and at whose expense.

Any decision would be very controversial and difficult to make. Being beyond politics grants us a certain comfort zone and gives us the right to say: These questions should be directed to civil servants, not to us.

[Skowronski] Is the Polish Army very poor, not so poor, or rich?

[Onyszkiewicz] The Army is by no means very rich, although it possesses a rich infrastructure of buildings, barracks, and testing ranges inherited from an army of 400,000 servicemen, while today, we have fewer than 250,000 soldiers. However, this a dubious fortune, because we must pay taxes and spend money on maintenance. This is not anything that yields profits. If we look at a routine day in the Army, we will see that the rations are rather moderate, while resources for training or purchasing equipment are very scanty. I only hope that the situation will start to change soon.

[Skowronski] Is it correct that the budget for the unemployed is larger than that for the Army?

[Onyszkiewicz] I cannot say how much money is being spent on the unemployed; I do not remember the figures. I do not think it really is so. I know that large sums are being spent on the unemployed, and I believe this is right.

[Skowronski] Is the Polish Army insufficiently financed?

[Onyszkiewicz] Undoubtedly, yes. The budget's poverty over the past several years means that we have neither been able to carry out any major work on the conservation of the infrastructure nor purchase equipment. The Army's budget has dropped 60 percent in comparison to 1988, taking into account the real purchasing power of the zloty. We currently have a little more than one-third of what we used to have in 1988. I do not want to say that we should have that much. However, such a dramatic decline is very painful, and can become unbearable.

[Skowronski] Does this mean that Poland is disarmed?

[Onyszkiewicz] No. We have arms, although they are becoming obsolete, and we are having to write them off. At the same time, we cannot afford new ones. Thus, it is true that in a couple of years we will have no valuable weapons.

[Skowronski] How do the Polish arms industries feel? Does the Army sign contracts with them for tanks, planes, guns, and rifles?

[Onyszkiewicz] We would be happy to sign such contracts and the arms industries would be happy to carry them out and produce good equipment. We simply have no means for this. This is why the arms industries are in a critical situation, almost in agony.

[Skowronski] How are the troops deployed on Polish territory? Are they deployed well?

[Onyszkiewicz] They are not. The deployment pattern has also been sort of inherited from the Warsaw Pact. I do not have to remind you how it all looked, in what direction and how far we were supposed to march. As a result of this strategy, an overwhelming majority of our units were concentrated in the western part of the state, while in the east of Poland only second echelon rear units were deployed. The imbalance is very vivid, and we must try to restore that balance today. This is why we are developing our units in central and eastern Poland, while those in the west are being reduced and transferred to reserves. We hope that in the near future some 40 percent of troops will be deployed in the west and the remaining 60 percent will be distributed evenly in central and eastern parts. The western group will still outnumber the others, but the distribution will be more even.

[Woyciechowski] Why is it taking so long to move our troops to the eastern border?

[Onyszkiewicz] Suppose we need to relocate a division, which consists of more than 10,000 servicemen. Add to this their families, and you will get an equivalent of an entire town. So moving a division amounts to building a new town, which calls for hefty expenses. Even several years ago, the estimated cost of such an operation would run at more than 1 trillion zloty. Now, this would cost some 2 billion zlotys—a sum that is unbearable for our budget.

[Skowronski] But the process is still continuing.

[Onyszkiewicz] Fortunately, we have the necessary infrastructure in the eastern area, even though it is older and not as developed as what we have in the western part. We are deploying different units there—the Ninth Division in the Przemysl, Jaroslaw, and Rzeszow and the Third Division in the Lublin areas, as well as various tactical formations in the northern part of the country. Let me not read the whole list, and assure you that the process of relocation, though slow and expensive, is continuing.

[Skowronski] Speaking about the country's security, does someone threaten Poland? Do we want to enter NATO, or do we want to build NATO-2 [reference to a NATO counterpart made up of Eastern European countries and including some CIS republics]?

[Onyszkiewicz] I think one NATO would be enough, and there is no need to form and enter a NATO-2.

[Skowronski] Sometimes the second entry sounds more pleasant.

[Onyszkiewicz] For movie fans, absolutely yes. In terms of security, Poland has found itself in a situation it has rarely experienced before—no one poses a serious threat to it. Various sources of threat might be mainly activated by the disturbance of the fragile stabilization across our eastern border, but the military threat is probably one of the least likely developments. Moreover, rather than a conflict between states, these would be disparate flashes

on the border or strains caused by certain political parties. I believe we would be perfectly capable of coping with such local conflicts, which is why someone's defensive shelter is not so crucial to Poland. But this is a very important point in favor of Poland's attractiveness as a union's partner—no one is too quick to assume someone else's problems.

[Skowronski] Do you not fear the Russian big-power policy? Those who are out to restore the old Russian empire are becoming increasingly vocal.

[Onyszkiewicz] There is such a danger. However, a new factor appeared in our relations—for the first time over the past 500 years, we have no common border with Russia. Therefore, Russia will first direct its claims at our eastern neighbors, which separate us from this country. I am not saying that this will not affect our security. However, I hope that the democratic process in Russia will continue to successfully advance, and that Russia will not return to its imperialistic dreams, providing favorable conditions for all of us to chart some security zone in Europe based on mutual trust.

[Skowronski] On 27 May, Lech Walesa came back from Ukraine, where the situation was pretty ambiguous—President Kravchuk suggested that we all build something together, while Walesa seemed to hang back. Was that the case?

[Onyszkiewicz] The Ukrainian proposal to create a security zone in eastern and central Europe—or at least open a dialogue on this subject—was not worded precisely enough. It can be interpreted in many ways. I think, however, that this initiative has a rational point, because it makes sense to address the security of the countries that are left outside of NATO and—thank God—the Warsaw Pact, with nothing in return. On the other hand, forming some new political institution in this part of the world would surely not be too attractive a thing to do at a time when we are striving to something else—integrate with the European organizations. And this initiative would slow this process down.

[Skowronski] Will we manage to enter NATO?

[Onyszkiewicz] I believe that there are no doubts about that. The question is only when and what kind of process this would be.

[Skowronski] Is it true that when in Ukraine, the Ukrainian media were very excited about the fact that your wife is a granddaughter of Pilsudski? Were they scared?

[Onyszkiewicz] Oh, no. Perhaps because I was visiting Kiev, where they foster traditions of Petlura, which are the traditions of a military union and the joint fights. One should not forget that in 1920, Ukrainian units fought side-by-side with Polish units near Zamosc and Aleksandrow Kujawski in Poland. They still remember this.

[Skowronski] You have always been a civilian. How did you find yourself in the military?

[Onyszkiewicz] Although I studied in a military institution—even though not for too long—I did not choose a military career. Now about how I found myself in the military: In 1990, I became vice defense minister, when Mr. Mazowiecki decided to get an inside view of the Army—something which all Solidarity politicians have always seen as the military fortress. I was simply a civilian who had as little experience in this sphere as anyone else.

[Skowronski] Has Janusz Onyszkiewicz, a mathematics Ph.D., managed to seize that fortress? Has the Army become accustomed to a civilian defense minister?

[Onyszkiewicz] I am not sure if I have managed to seize it. As for the second part of the question, I believe that it already has, and that this process was not too difficult or painful.

PAP Details Arms Smuggling Trial

LD0206123093 Warsaw PAP in English 1136 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Warsaw, June 2—Harold J. Pokel, defence counsel for one of the Poles accused of illegal arms trading said on Wednesday [2 June] that the court will base its proceedings solely on testimonies by criminals and agents of U.S. special services.

Pokel, speaking at a press conference in Warsaw, added that there is no objective evidence which could justify the arrest of the Poles in Germany, and their later extradition to the U.S.

In his opinion, American agents have to justify the spending of some 250,000 dollars, the cost of the provocation against the Poles.

Pokel added that if the American court had received a guarantee on the part of the Polish Government, than the five Poles would not have been kept in prison to this moment.

UK Foreign Secretary, Iliescu Give Statements

AU0206142593 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1400 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Statements by President Ion Iliescu and Douglas Hurd, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, after their meeting at the Bucharest Cotroceni Palace, today—recorded; Hurd speaks in English, with superimposed translation into Romanian, translated from the Romanian]

[Text] [Announcer] After their meeting today at Cotroceni Palace, Romania's President Mr. Ion Iliescu and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd made a brief press statements:

[Begin Iliescu recording] To begin with, I would like to emphasize the political importance and significance of Mr. Douglas Hurd's visit to Romania. Generally speaking, we have positively assessed the evolution of our relations over the past three and a half years, as well as Great Britain's active, positive, and constructive position vis-a-vis the December events, the Romanian revolution of December 1989. We also value the active support lent to us by Britain in various international and European institutions and in the European Community, as well as the development of bilateral relations at all levels, in political, economic, and other spheres.

Therefore, we consider the visit to Romania by the head of British diplomacy as a key political moment in the development of our bilateral relations. We exchanged views, on the one hand, on the evolution of the situation in Romania, on the stage of our bilateral relations, and on the political will of the two countries to further develop these ties and cooperation in the European and international institutions; on the other hand, we exchanged views on the evolution of events in Yugoslavia and the joint interest in supporting the efforts of the international community to find political solutions for our neighboring country.

I would like to emphasize the frank spirit in which our talks were held and the sentiments of mutual esteem, respect, and friendship characteristic of the relations between our countries. [end recording]

[Announcer] Here is the statement by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd:

[Begin Hurd recording] I am grateful to the president for finding the time to see me. I think we had a very good talk. The president focussed on two themes: One was the progress and the problems of Romania, and I repeated with some precision the attitude which we have, of supporting Romania in the institutions of Europe and in international institutions as a whole. Then we talked, as the president has said, about the problems of the former Yugoslavia and about the tragedy of missed opportunities, when there was a chance, perhaps, to build a Yugoslavia by consent and avoid these sufferings. But then we also talked about the present, the president's recent visits and meetings with the six presidents of the former Yugoslavia, and I was very glad to have his assessments and also his support for what the international community is trying to achieve. [end recording]

[Announcer] These were the press statements made by Romania's President Mr. Ion Iliescu and Douglas Hurd, British foreign secretary, at the end of their meeting at Cotroceni Palace today.

Hurd Gives Press Conference

AU0206154393 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1259 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Editorial Report] Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian at 1230 GMT on 2 June 1993 carries a live relay of a news conference given by Douglas Hurd, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in Bucharest. Before answering journalists' questions, Hurd makes a seven-minute introductory statement on his visit and talks in Romania. Then a 22-minute question-and-answer session followed.

Reporter Alexandra Andon from ADEVARUL, speaking in English, asks the following: "What is the basis for the interest that Great Britain is showing in Romania? And my second question: What role do you think Romania can play in the zone after the crisis ends?"

Hurd's replies were in English with a superimposed Romanian translation: "The basis for British collaboration with Romania practically consists of our historical ties and our trust in Romania's future. The reason for Great Britain being one of the major investors in Romania is that we have sufficient confidence in this country.

"As regards your second question, the Romanian Government is quite right to deal with the conflict in Yugoslavia while thinking of the future, the period that is to follow after the conflict in Yugoslavia ends. There will be political, economic, and security discussions concerning that area, and indeed, they will also concern Yugoslavia's neighbors. Romania is looking forward to that day. The current difficulties are to put an end to the conflict and establishing a lasting peace."

The second reporter to ask questions is Sean (?Millan) of the London TIMES, who wants to know Hurd's opinion about allegations circulating in Britain that humanitarian assistance granted to Romania is poorly managed and "sometimes does not even reach the health system for which it is actually intended."

Hurd replies by saying that he does "not intend to comment on that in public. You must have heard what I said about the issue of human rights in Romania, and it is not for Britain or for outsiders to criticize every aspect of Romania's domestic policy. There is a general impatience regarding Romania's domestic policy and I think that it is a mistake to try to involve oneself from outside

the country. What we can reasonably do and what I have to do, and the European institutions will do, is to consider that Romania has to move towards a market economy, towards coherence and internal stability, and towards an administration of economic matters that has integrity. Those are the two general relations that European institutions can reasonably ask of each other."

An unidentified reporter then asks Hurd whether he thinks that Romanian authorities could be more efficient in implementing the economic sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia. Hurd replies: "We know that sanctions are not 100 percent applied in any of the countries surrounding Yugoslavia. Which is why we have encouraged the sanctions assistance mission. They are intended to fill the gaps left by the respective governments. And last week, or ten days ago, in Rome, we signed an understanding with Romania to build up a flotilla along the Danube, on which I gave you details in my opening statement. So I am sure they are going to improve it." "Romania has even been criticized, I understand, for not fully applying the sanctions. Those who criticize should ask what they are doing for the implementation of the United Nations resolutions."

The next reporter asks Hurd whether there will be any concrete actions to compensate Romania for the losses it has suffered by observing the sanctions against Yugoslavia. Hurd replies that those losses have to be taken into consideration, and the British chancellor is one of the senior officials considering that matter. However, Hurd adds, the losses ought to be proved by means of documents. Considering those obvious losses, Hurd expresses his opinion that "the International Monetary Fund should take that fact into account," when dealing with Romania.

Next, Hurd is asked by the TANJUG correspondent in Bucharest whether the demotion of Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic will "influence negatively or positively the conflict in Yugoslavia." Douglas Hurd replies briefly by saying that it is too early and therefore too difficult to foresee what will happen.

Answering another question, Hurd outlines the situation in Europe after the collapse of the communist system and especially that of the Soviet Union, which has become unable to act as an "imperialist giant," but also unable to stop the Yugoslav conflict. Nationalism is flaring up, but "I think that the Serbs, particularly the Bosnian Serbs, should look ahead, to their future, and not simply to the pleasure of planting their flag in those ruined villages. Let us hope that there will soon be a return to rational discussions."

A BBC correspondent, referring to the Dniester issue, asks Hurd whether he contemplates taking any action over this problem. Hurd answers that "the issue might come up in further discussions this evening," but at the moment he has nothing established on this question.

To a question from a correspondent representing the English service of Radio Romania International whether Great Britain is actively supporting Romania's association with the European Community, Hurd answers "yes, we foresee Romania's association with the European Community, on condition that Romania rises to the level of demands from the point of view of its economy and internal political dialogue."

Asked whether there are concrete projects for parliamentary cooperation between Romania and Great Britain, Hurd answers "indeed yes. Some of them are government projects and others with the Know How Fund" and investment and "bilateral projects in addition to European international projects."

Asked about the conclusions of his meeting with former Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman and to what extent Hurd considers "Romania as representing a strategic point in Eastern Europe from a political and economic point of view," Hurd says that he held talks with Petre Roman as "one of the opposition leaders" and discussed "the political situation in Romania. I believe you should ask him what he said to me, but you should ask other people whom I met this morning. Certainly Romania has a strategic role, an economic role" in Eastern Europe and "we see Eastern Europe gradually developing and Romania is part of this and, therefore, an important part." "I drew attention to Spain and Portugal this morning, which succeeded in making their entry to Europe." Hurd expresses the belief that Romania will also enter Europe.

Constantin Badea, representing ROMPRES, asks Hurd whether he "honestly thinks that the West really has a solution for the existential drama that is shattering all our lives in East European countries" and, knowing the answer to be negative, then "why did the West behave and still does as though it knew all the solutions?" Douglas Hurd says "you have to find and Romania has to find its own solutions. You have been through a very dramatic and difficult experience. We are not coming to you with solutions. We come and say: Look! We are your friends, but you have to find your own way, both politically and economically. If there are ways in which we can help you that are within our possibilities, then we will be glad to do so," and adds "no, we are not coming with magical solutions to your problems"; "this is quite a sophisticated country with a long history and we cannot interfere."

Answering the question on Bosnia: "Do you think that it is very likely that the international community will use more force than hitherto," considering that the Serbs and Bosnians "do not seem to care very much for the Vance-Owen agreement?" Hurd answers that in connection with Bosnia "we said in a Washington statement that we will not exclude measures, harsher measures than those that are now in force. But you all know the difficulties involved in force or military intervention." Asked about the Maastricht treaty, Hurd says that, in spite of the social difficulties that it involves, "I think it is reasonable in this uncertain world to expect ratification to be completed in the autumn of this year."

After the translator announces that a question was not heard, the news conference concludes at 1322 GMT with the announcer reviewing the aid that Britain has granted Romania so far, saying that "Britain has granted so far the most efficient forms of assistance through the bodies of the international community, as well as in the fields of security and defense, and what we find even more important is that the wish for assistance has been reasserted now, during the visit Mr. Hurd is paying to Romania. That is precisely why Mr. Hurd's visit is a an outstanding political moment, a clear signal that we are entering a more active, more substantial, stage of the political and economic relations, not only bilateral ones but in general relations with the Western structures. Thus, Romanian-British relations should be viewed through two distinctive aspects, one of the pure bilateral relations and the other one is related to Romania's relations with the Western structures."

Discusses Reform With Roman

AU0206155593 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1506 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—Britain's secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs met Wednesday, 2 June, with Petre Roman, president of the Democratic Party (former National Salvation Front).

After the talks Petre Roman told the press the four major subjects they had focused their attention were: the factors blocking the political and economic reform in Romania, the conditions in which opposition parties can express their opinions, the freedom of the press and the consequences of the Yugoslav crisis upon Romania.

Meets With Prime Minister Vacaroiu

AU0206160793 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1534 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—Romanian Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu received Wednesday, 2 June, UK's secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Douglas Hurd, who is on an official visit to Bucharest.

The premier made a presentation of the stage reached by the Romanian economy in its transition to a free market. He stressed the importance for Romania of Britain's decision to support this country in strengthening democracy, overcoming the transition difficulties and integrating in the international economic structures.

Douglas Hurd made it known to the Romanian premier that Great Britain was willing to intensely cooperate with Romania on a bilateral basis as well, through export credits from the Know-How Fund, through direct help for the ratification of the Agreement for Romania's Association to the European Communities, and also on a multilateral plane and here he quoted his country's endeavours to promote the real image of Romania in the world, especially at the next summit conference due to be held soon in Copenhagen.

Meets With Minister Melescanu

AU0206172393 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1614 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—The talks of Wednesday, 2 June, between Romania's Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu and Britain's Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd were devoted to an analysis of the evolution of the relations between the two countries, of the conflict in Yugoslavia, the current problems in the Balkan world as a whole, and, briefly, the situation in the area, specifically in the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation.

The British side stated its support for speeding up the ratification procedures of the agreement for the association of Romania with the European Communities, as well as for the admittance of Romania as full member to the Council of Europe.

The British minister expressed his country's viewpoint about the possibilities of encouraging British investors, making reference to the foreign companies' right to landed property and to repatriation of benefits. In the same line, the sides examined the likelihood of joint projects at corporate level.

An important subject of the talks was the evolution of the Yugoslav conflict from the perspective of the Washington statement of "the Five," of the Vance-Owen plan and of the recent developments in Belgrade, as well as a draft resolution by security zones.

The topic of the compensations Romania is entitled to for the losses incurred as a consequence of the embargo enforced by the Security Council against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) was also brought up and the remark was made that Great Britain was among the most active states upholding international assistance in this respect. The British side thinks that the only realistic method of obtaining compensations is by a system of financial assistance, through the International Monetary Fund, the G-24, PHARE [Economic Reconstruction Aid for Poland and Hungary], EBRD [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development] and the European Bank for Investment.

At the talks the two sides reasserted their positions in connection with the sanctions enforced by the Security Council as the only means of pressure for stopping the hostilities, as against the variant of a military intervention.

Ministry Rejects 'Anti-Russian Campaign'

AU0206150493 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1336 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 2/6/1993—The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs made public its position at the Wednesday, 2 June news briefing, about a 1 June 1993 report by ITAR-TASS agency ascribing to the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (allegedly quoting sources from the same ministry) a somewhat bewildered reaction relative to Romania's demarches in connection with the judicial frame-up in Tiraspol.

While noting the inaccuracies and the contorted description of the facts in the said report, the Romanian Foreign Ministry says:

The fact that Romania's president, parliament and prime minister have chosen to address the authorities in power in the Russian Federation is motivated by that they were seen as the only ones in the position to favourably influence the so-called authorities in Tiraspol. Nowhere in any of the interventions made by Romania have the pleas been worded in such a manner as to result that in Romania the Russian Federation is held as responsible, as culpable in the matter. There is therefore nothing that could justify the phrase "anti-Russian campaign."

The wide international response to Romania's actions taken for the salvation of the lives of the detainees of Tiraspol stand proof that this country's demarches were the right thing to do and were done in a humanitarian spirit.

The fact that the authors of the report do not seem to know why the prisoners held behind the bars of iron cages in Tiraspol are Romanian patriots makes any commentary useless except maybe for the remark that apparently the imperial-Soviet-communist thesis is being revived according to which the citizens of the Republic of Moldova should be regarded as a completely different kin, completely unknown to the Romanian people.

The report vilely tries to insinuate the idea of a deja-faite separation between the Republic of Moldova and Transdniester by referring to a "direct dialogue of the authorities in Chisinau and those in Tiraspol." It clearly appears that the writers of the report accept to act as spokesmen for the conservative forces in Moscow which have always backed the separatist forces in the Moldavian districts on the left bank of the River Dniester.

To revert to the trial in Tiraspol, we truly hope that it is the trial there that worries the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and not the humanitarian actions taken by Romania with the purpose of saving the lives of the defendants.

The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to believe that, had there been any uncertainties about the subject in dispute, they could have been clarified by the habitual diplomatic channels and not with the aid of a press agency strongly motivated by the wish to spare the separatists and their illegal and inhuman actions.

The Romanian Foreign Ministry is therefore further open to dialogue with its Russian counterpart on the issue and on any other matters of joint interest.

Vacaroiu Briefs Japanese Delegation

AU0206185093 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1753 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—Wednesday, 2 June, Romanian Premier Nicolae Vacaroiu received at the Victory Palace (seat of Romanian Government) a Japanese delegation headed by Kengo Hasegawa [name as received], chairman of the Japanese side in the joint Romanian-Japanese commission.

The Romanian premier informed the Japanese guests about the legislative frame Romania offered the foreign investors and about the possibilities to expand the bilateral economic and commercial relations. He expressed Romania's desire to become better known in Japan.

To that effect Hasegawa opined the flow of information from Romania towards Japan was incomplete and defective and that it was necessary to stimulate the relations with the Japanese firms and direct and permanent contacts between businessmen.

During the interview it was considered that the amount of commercial exchanges between the two countries was far under the actual possibilities and that Japan was willing to support Romania in updating the informational flow regarding its own real potential for business and management.

German, Italian Boats Arrive To Reinforce Embargo

AU0206175493 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1629 GMT 2 May 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—The German vessel Zan Luiken [name as received] reached the Romanian port of Constanta on Tuesday, June 2. It carried two fast boats for the surveillance of river and sea ships, that will help Romania in the monitoring of the observance of the embargo on Yugoslavia. The boats have up-to- date equipment and Italian and German crews. The Italian ship Rolincone, which arrived at Constanta equally on Tuesday, transported another two boats as well as trucks and cars for the policing of the Danube. This action is a reply to the request of the Romanian Government for assistance in the monitoring of the embargo on the Danube.

Court Accepts PNL-AT, PNL-CD Merger

AU0100185793 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1446 GMT 1 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 1/6/1993—The Bucharest court admitted the Liberal Party's application on the registration of the fusion of the National Liberal Party-Young Wing [PNL-AT] with the National Liberal Party-Democratic Convention [PNL-CD] and on the new name of the party, that is, the Liberal Party - 1993, Valeriu Stoica, member of the Steering Committee told the weekly news conference on Tuesday, June 1.

SRI Issues Communique on Parliament Incident

AU0206192893 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1415 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 2/6/1993—Relative to the contradictory and confusing interpretations some publications and officials have advanced in respect of the incident in which on 27 May Romanian Intelligence Service (SRI) employees were involved while discharging their professional duties as antiterrorist guards for Greater Romania Party (PRM) Senator Corneliu Vadim Tudor, the SRI press bureau informs that: "The SRI guards discharged their duties within the strict limits of their profession, which excludes any political allegiance or inferences of any other nature."

"Our employees," the press release says, "have acted strictly on the defence. They did not assume any aggressive attitude beyond the confines of their professional competence, and nor will they ever do so. As a matter of fact, the Romanian Intelligence Service keeps itself outside any political games, all the more so when such games can lead to incidents like those occurred in the Parliament of Romania."

Nuclear Plant To Start Operating by December

AU0106114993 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0940 GMT 1 Jun 93

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 1/6/1993—"We are decided together with our Canadian and Italian partners to put into operation by next December the first group of the Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant" (South-Eastern Romania), told the daily ADEVARUL Tiberiu Campureanu, vice president of the RENEL (the Electric Power Autonomous Company). According to his opinion, "the optimism of the beneficiary and of the builder of this plant is grounded first of all on the state of the works at present: an 81 per cent general level of execution. A second reason for our optimism lays with the RENEL's confidence in the system of management of the Italian-Canadian consortium initiated in 1990".

"The final count down has already started for the first group of the plant", said Viorel Marculescu, director of the Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant. He also mentioned that pre-operational tests are under way, such as tests regarding the pressure on certain parts in the circuit and pressure tests of the processers. Heavy water is to enter the primary circuit and the moderator by next April-September, the 420 kw station will also be ready to enter operation, the reactor will be fueled and by next October the chain-reacting pile is to be started.

Mr. Marculescu mentioned that the participation of the Romanian industry in the manufacturing of the equipment for the first group of the Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant is of 35 per cent for the nuclear part and of 25 per cent for the classic part.

Foreign Media Bulletin: Balkan Crisis 3 June

WA0306152993

The following is an overview of current FBIS reporting on events in the Balkans. It supplements other FBIS reporting and consists primarily of selected summaries of longer reports. For reference purposes, serial numbers of the longer reports are provided.

SUMMARY

Serbian opposition leader Draskovic detained by police ... Cosic denounces firing by Assembly, Milosevic ... Albanian activist in poor health in 10th day of hunger strike ... Italy protests Yugoslav Navy attack on fishing boat.

POLITICAL

DRASKOVIC ARRESTED, 'INJURED' (TANJUG, AFP): Serbian opposition leader Draskovic remains in detention after arrest during melee between demonstrators and police in front of Federal Assembly building. Draskovic's lawyer says his police interrogation was postponed because he was "seriously injured" during the clashes. Quoting the Belgrade daily BORBA, AFP reports Draskovic and his wife have been sentenced to 60 days in prison for "undermining public order." Serbian Prime Minister Sainovic accuses Draskovic of "trying to take power by force." (LD0206190493, AU03O6103293, LD0206213593)

COSIC DENOUNCES MILOSEVIC (TANJUG): Saying Serbian President Milosevic could "no longer tolerate" opposition "to his tyrannical will," ousted FRY President Cosic calls his dismissal a "classical Stalinist act." Cosic says his dismissal demonstrates that federal government is "under the protectorate" of Milosevic, warns that "undermining" of federal authority "fuels traditional" Montenegrin "separatism." (LDO206184193)

ALBANIAN ACTIVIST ON HUNGER STRIKE (Tirana Radio): Kosovo Albanian activist Demaci's reportedly in "extremely serious" condition after 10th day of hunger strike. Demaci, along with journalists of banned Kosovo Albanian daily RILINDJA, protesting Serbian denial of press freedom in Kosovo. (AU0306073993)

MILITARY

ITALY PROTESTS FRY ATTACK (Rome TV, TANJUG): Italian Foreign Ministry issues note of protest against FRY Navy attack that killed one, injured another member of Italian fishing boat. FRY Navy claims boat was fishing in FRY waters "without authorization." (LD0206185093, LD02O6224393)

UNPROFOR ACCUSES SERBS OF ATTACK (AFP, TANJUG): UNPROFOR says investigation shows mortar shells that killed 12 Muslims playing soccer in Dobrinja came "from Serbian positions." Bosnian Serb forces deny accusation. (AU0206163193, LD0306O14993)

UNHCR Suspends Humanitarian Aid Due to Attacks

AU0306090093 Paris AFP in English 0814 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Michael Adler report]

[Text] Sarajevo, June 3 (AFP)—Sarajevo airport remained closed to humanitarian flights on Thursday as fighting flared in the eastern Moslem enclave of Gorazde with tension high throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina.

But the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was still flying planes and international negotiators Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen were expected in Sarajevo Thursday afternoon for new efforts towards ending Bosnia's 14-month-old war between Serb nationalists and the mainly Moslem government.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) suspended its humanitarian flights Wednesday after two French legionnaires were seriously wounded by sniper fire at Sarajevo airport.

UNHCR spokesman Tony Land told AFP Thursday that the flights were off until further notice. He said the decision on when to resume them was up to the countries who fly aircraft into Sarajevo.

The airlift began last July and was suspended in September for one month when an Italian plane was shot down. It has since then continued with periodic interruptions due to fighting around Sarajevo airport, where front lines for nationalist Serbs besieging the capital and the mainly Moslem Bosnians defending it flank opposite sides of the runway.

Land said the break in the airlift was serious since fighting in central Bosnia has cut off for the past two days land convoys into Sarajevo.

He said there would be no impact in the city until next week, when this week's supplies would be distributed.

"We don't have any reserves," he said, however about the situation in the U.N. warehouses in Sarajevo. The U.N. supplies are critical in Sarajevo, cut off from other routes due to the Serb blockade.

Sarajevo radio reported a worsening situtaion in Gorazde, a U.N.-declared safe-haven where Serb troops have defied a U.N. mandate by cutting off access to both U.N. military observers and to UNHCR convoys.

A UNHCR convoy was refused permission again Wednesday after trying Tuesday to go to Gorazde and has turned back to Belgrade, Land said.

Gorazde is the only one of six safe Moslem havens—where there is no U.N.presence at all.

The U.N. Security Council is considering an amended draft resolution aimed at ending Bosnian Serb attacks on the six U.N.-declared safe areas—Sarajevo, Tuzla, Srebrenica, Zepa, Gorazde and Bihac.

If approved, the United Nations would send additional peacekeepers, perhaps 5,000, to protect the estimated one million Moslems. The peacekeepers would be allowed to defend themselves, to respond to shellfire and armed incursions.

There had been hopes that the U.N. talks could be wrapped up Wednesday, but European diplomats here said after a late meeting that a vote to approve the resolution could be held Thursday but would more likely be Friday.

The Serbs have been attacking since last Friday in Gorazde, one of the last Moslem areas in eastern Bosnia.

The U.N. protection force only Wednesday obtained confirmation that fighting was taking place in Gorazde and this was from NATO planes enforcing a no-fly zone over Bosnia and which had "spotted fires on the ground 7 to 10 kilometers (4 to 6 miles) east of Gorazde," an UNPROFOR spokesman said.

The radio said Gorazde hospital was full and that there were many wounded.

The radio also reported Moslem-Croat clashes in the central Bosnian town of Sojnica in which two Bosnian Croatian soldiers were killed and well as two Moslem civilians and one Bosnian soldier.

Sarajevo was relatively quiet although there was shelling and sniping.

Methods of Protecting Aid Convoys To Be Considered

AU0306121593 Paris AFP in English 1201 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Michael Adler report]

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, June 3 (AFP)—[passage omitted]

International mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg meanwhile were expected in Sarajevo later Thursday for new peace efforts, after winding up talks in Zagreb with Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, Croatian officials there said.

Fighting in central Bosnia has reduced the flow of land convoys to Sarajevo, with none arriving over the past two days, Tony Land, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) delegate, told reporters. Air delivery was now accounting for 90 percent of the food the UNHCR was bringing to mainly Moslem Sarajevo, cut off by a nationalist Serb siege.

Land said there would be no effects in the city until next week, when this week's supplies would be distributed. "We don't have any reserves," he said, about the situation in the U.N.'s warehouses in Sarajevo.

UNHCR suspended its humanitarian flights Wednesday after two French legionnaires were seriously wounded by sniper fire at Sarajevo airport. Foreign Legion spokesman Major Michel Marvie said Wednesday the shots came from east of the runway, which is Serb-held land.

Serb forces are on the offensive, apparently against Western aid workers and U.N. troops here as well as the mainly Moslem Bosnian government.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Luuk Niessen said Thursday that an attack Tuesday on a UNPROFOR-escorted aid convoy in Maglaj in northern Bosnia that killed four people was deliberately carried out by Serb forces.

"The attack was from the direction of Serbian-held territory and tank rounds were used," he said.

UNPROFOR sources in Zagreb said Owen and Stoltenberg would discuss increasing protection for aid convoys in Bosnia. [passage omitted] Increasing attacks on aid workers and convoys have raised concern about whether the humanitarian effort for war-torn Bosnia can continue if U.N. forces do not take a more active role in protecting them.

"I don't think there is a safe way of delivering food in a war zone," Land said.

He also said the airport remained closed because there had been three—not one as earlier reported—recent "incidents in which aircraft were hit by small-arms fire while flying into the city."

Land said the decision on when to resume the airlift, which began last July, was up to the countries who fly the aid into Sarajevo.

Sarajevo radio reported a worsening situation in Gorazde, a U.N.-declared safe haven where Serb troops have defied the U.N. mandate by cutting off access both to U.N. military observers and UNHCR convoys. A UNHCR convy was refused authorization again Wednesday after trying Tuesday to go to Gorazde and had turned back to Belgrade, Land said. [passage omitted]

The radio said people in Gorazde "didn't sleep last night again" as there were strong forces attacking on all fronts. It said the city was full of refugees from the outlying areas of Gorazde, where the Serbs have burned down at least 41 villages.

It said Gorazde hospital was full and that there were many wounded and dead for both the Serb attackers and the Moslem defenders.

UN Accuses Serbs of Deliberate Attack on Convoy

AU0306094293 Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Text] Sarajevo, June 3 (AFP)—An attack on a U.N.-escorted aid convoy in Maglaj in northern Bosnia that killed four people was deliberately carried out by Serb forces, U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Luuk Niessen said here Thursday.

He told reporters: "Three things are very clear. This has been a deliberate attack on an UNHCR convoy. The attack was from the direction of Serbian-held territory and tanks rounds were used."

The attack took place on Tuesday.

UN Confirms Serbs Fired Mortars on Football Game

AU0206163193 Paris AFP in English 1606 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Sarajevo, June 2 (AFP)—A U.N. investigation has confirmed that mortar shells that killed 12 people at a Moslem holiday football game in the Sarajevo suburb of Dobrinja came from Serb positions.

The technical study of the crater holes in the playing field showed the "impact came from at least an 81-mm firing" and the form of the craters and the distance pointed to Tuesday's [1 June] shots coming from Serb positions in Lukavica southeast of Dobrinja, French Commander Michel Marvie of the U.N. Protection Force told AFP.

The minimum distance of the shot was 1,120 metres, which places the shot as coming from the area of the Lukavica military barracks, a key Serb position, he said.

Slaughters such as the Dobrinja massacre have given rise in the past to charges that Moslems bombed their own people in order to win world sympathy. Ejup Ganic, vice president of the mainly Moslem Bosnian Government, said Wednesday [2 June] of the Dobrinja case: "Who would think we could do that to our own?"

Two mortar shells exploded in the middle of a football game held on a Moslem holiday in Dobrinja Tuesday, killing 12 people and wounding about 110, 40 seriously, among the spectators and players, doctors in Dobrinja said.

Three children were among the dead in the bombing, which shattered an otherwise calm day in Sarajevo.

Moslems in mainly Moslem Sarajevo were off work for the Barjam holiday that celebrates the end of the pilgrimmage to the holy city Mecca.

In Dobrinja, 10 five-man teams of Bosnian Government Army soldiers were playing a makeshift holiday tournament on an asphalt playing court in a yard formed by

three seven-storey apartment buildings. About 150 people were watching, some sitting on wrecked cars which blocked off the two ends of the improvised football field.

At about 10:30 A.M. (0830 GMT), "these two mortars hit the square. I knew right away there were going to be a lot of wounded," 20-year-old Sead Bajic told AFP from his bed in Dobrinja hospital.

Serbs Deny Responsibility

LD0306014993 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2248 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—This evening the information service of the Serb republic army's main headquarters denied the accusations that the Serb side was responsible for yesterday's shelling of the Sarajevo district of Dobrinja, in which 11 persons were killed and more than 80 wounded, SRNA reported.

In its statement, the information service categoricaly asserts that the Serb republic army did not engage in any combat activities in this area on Tuesday. [passage omitted]

The statement stresses that it is indicative that the incident took place on the great Muslim holiday of Kurban-Bayram and that the Muslim media had previously warned the citizens to be fully alert and to stay in their homes particularly on the first day of Bayram.

Bihac Attacked; Snipers Active in Sarajevo

AU0206134393

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1000 GMT on 2 June carries in its regular 22-minute newscast the following reports that update the fighting in the republic.

A studio announcer reads a report saying that "on the Olovo front, the morning passed without greater activity on the part of the Chetnik forces. The enemy artillery did not target the city itself, but howitzers showered the defense lines of the First Olovo Brigade. In the last 10 days, 11 Chetniks were killed, dozens were wounded, while a greater quantity of ammunition and arms have been captured."

The Seven South Operative Group information center reports that "the aggressor's attacks are spreading to the Doboj part of the front. Yesterday the positions of the 203d Doboj Bosna Motorized Brigade and the 110th Brigade of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] were frequently shelled from tanks and mortars [words indistinct]. The courageous defenders responded successfully, and pushed the aggressor back to his initial positions."

Mehmedalija Zulic reports from the Bihac press center that "the enemy attacks were most intense on the Bosanski Petrovac area. The [word indistinct] on the occupied territory are plundering, torching, and mining houses." He adds that "mortars are sporadically active on the Bihac part of the front."

The studio announcer says that "the morning in Sarajevo is relatively calm, except in Stari Grad where there is some enemy activity. Around 1100 [0900 GMT] two people were seriously injured from a sower of death [M84 machinegun] from the Spicasta Stijena. The shelling of [name indistinct], Hrid, and Siroka has started. Citizens are warned to take care when going down Kranjceviceva and Brod Streets, where an antiaircraft machine gun is constantly active."

A studio announcer reads a report from Mostar that "after the head-on conflict between the HVO and the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army at the separation lines on the crossroads of Narodna Revolucija Boulevard and Santiceva Street, as well as on other conflict lines in the city and suburbs, last night there were frequent barrages from infantry arms and armor-piercing weapons. There was very intense fire from the positions of the HVO this morning between 0300 and 0500 on the boulevard, and inflammable projectiles of the HVO. [sentence as heard]. Another building burned, as did an apartment building in the vicinity of [words indistinct]. The 4th Corps Command and its 41st Motorized Glorious Brigade say there have been no casualties in their ranks."

A studio announcer reads a report from UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR] monitors who say that "yesterday, at least 30 shells were fired at Kiseljak, five of them in the immediate vicinity of the Canadian garrison which forced the Canadian soldiers to take shelter. As was stated in the Sarajevo UNPRPFOR Headquarters the soldiers from the peacekeeping forces have sighted some burning houses northwest of Kiseljak. In Fojnica, which until yesterday had been generally calm, the situation has become tense, particularly after yesterday when an HVO soldier was wounded there. [Words indistinct] there was a mobilization of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and HVO forces. In clashes in Vitez, [words indistinct] the seat of the British battalion. The British returned fire, after which the attack stopped. UNPROFOR does not have information about whether any of the attackers suffered injuries. The UN observers have noticed a number of burning houses in the Vitez region." He adds that "the HVO released another 105 people during the exchange of prisoners of war."

Serbs Killed by Muslim Sniper Fire

LD0306012693 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2353 GMT

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—Muslim snipers killed three civilians in Grbavica [Serb-held district in central Sarajevo] today and they targeted Serb positions and districts on almost all parts of the Sarajevo battlefield. This was reported by SRNA, quoting the information center of the Sarajevo-Romanija Corps. [passage omitted]

Gorazde Attacked; 41 Villages 'Totally Razed'

AU0206145693 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] The attacks on the free territory of Gorazde are intensifying. The Chetnik forces have entered Medjedja and Ustipraca. These places have been completely looted and mostly burnt to the ground. About 80 buildings, over 200 houses, two mosques, two schools, and several industrial facilities have been burnt. The Gorazde war hospital has nowhere to put the newly wounded, so they are accommodated in cellars in the surrounding buildings. Oxygen and medicine are in short supply in the hospital, and the wounded are still being brought in. Many people have been left behind in the ruins of the burnt villages. So far 41 villages have been totally razed, while the bloody Chetnik orgy is continuing without the presence of the international public.

Gorazde resembles a mass grave of dozens of thousands of people. A large number of refugees from Medjedja and Ustipraca is still in the woods and parks around Gorazde. Will anyone in the world finally react? That is what everyone in Gorazde would like to know. In the meantime, the aggressor is bringing in reinforcements in equipment and manpower around Gorazde. The situation is increasingly desperate. With superhuman efforts, the defenders are slowing down the enemy onslaught. Semso Tucakovic reports on the heroic resistance by the defenders of Upper Podrinje to the Serbian- Chetnik force, which consists of over 10,000 Chetniks, members of the army of the so-called Yugoslavia, and mercenaries from Russia.

[Begin Semso Tucakovic recording] Clouds of smoke are rising over the valleys of the Drina, Lim, and Praca Rivers. Processions of unfortunate Muslims are trying to find salvation in Gorazde. The town hero [words indistinct] expecting help from the [word indistinct] of our country. Apart from Gorazde, the enemy has been attacking the wider region of Foca Commune. Yesterday and overnight they shelled the area around (?Gres). From (?Grtinska Zvijezda), they used Pragas against (?Rogoje). They used machine guns against the villages in [word indistinct]. A tank from (?Korine) has been pounding Orahovica all day. That is where a convoy of Chetniks moved to two days ago. [end recording]

Offensive 'Gains in Intensity'

AU0306113093

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1000 GMT on 3 June within its regular newscast carries several reports on the fighting in the republic.

In a largely indistinct report from Gorazde, a correspondent whose name is indistinct says that "as the day continues, the aggressor's offensive against Gorazde gains in intensity."

Velid Dzindo reports from Olovo about a "howitzer and [word indistinct] barrage on Olovo at about 2000 [1800 GMT] last night."

A studio announcer reports "shelling from Chetnik positions in Sarajevo" and says that "several shells fell on Dobrinja at about 1030, while, according to information collected so far, Dobrinja Three and Five has come under small arms fire." The report goes on to say that "a shell fell on Stup Hill at about 1100, but no reports on any injuries have been received. The entire region of [name indistinct], Alipasino Polje, [name indistinct], and the Pavle Goranin District are under antiaircraft gun fire."

Hand-to-Hand Combat Reported

AU0106151693

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1000 GMT on 1 June carries in its regular 25-minute newscast reports on the fighting in the republic.

Reporting from Gorazde Press Center, Mustafa Kurtovic reports that "the incredible aggression on Gorazde is still in progress. The Chetniks are tightening the encirclement from all sides. Over 20 villages [words indistinct] on the left bank of the Drina are in flames, while everything on the right bank is being destroyed. The offensive went on all night. The civilian population was evacuated before the Chetnik knife descended, but we have been receiving information that countless civilians, women and children, have remained in the burning villages. The exodus of the population from Medvedja and [names indistinct] lasted the entire night." He adds that "the fighters of the 1st [name indistinct] Brigade are heroically resisting the fiercest and greatest Chetnik onslaught since the beginning of the aggression. Special police units of the Gorazde Ministry of Internal Affairs are rushing to assist. The military police has also been called in." Later he says that "as we report, the Chetniks [words indistinct] the defense lines from the direction of (?Cajnici). A Chetnik offensive from the direction of Pale and [name indistinct] is also currently in progress." He also says that "we have information that the Chetniks are bringing in new reinforcements onto all the fronts. The situation is extremely dramatic. That is why we are calling upon all the citizens of Gorazde, all the fighters who have shown heroism [words indistinct] on Gorazde territory to persevere in defending this region, because we are defending the sovereign, [word indistinct] republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina." He says that "while we are reporting this, the offensive is not abating and the most sophisticated weaponry of the former Yugoslav People's Army is being used. The free territory of Gorazde is trembling, but the Gorazde heroes are responding. There is hand-to-hand fighting in progress."

Reporting from Tuzla, Enes Osmancevic says that "the morning hours in the Tuzla area have been relatively calm, which has not been the case with other villages and

defense lines. The outskirts of the Banovici municipality, [names indistinct] have been targeted by Chetnik mortars from Vijenac since this morning. The Chetniks fired on all the defense lines with infantry and antiaircraft weapons. A terrorist group tried to enter (?Sivnice) from the direction of (?Luznice), but they did not succeed. In retribution, the Chetniks from Rasovac are lobbing mortar shells onto the village. According to the latest information, no one has been hurt. Intensive small arms fire was reported this morning along the Tuzla and Kalesija defense lines, while the Lukavac and Zivinice areas are quiet as we report."

Reporting from the Mostar Press Center, an unidentified reporter says that "in the last 24 hours weapons were not idle on the lines dividing the forces of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the Croatian Defense Council [HVO]. Several mortar shells hit apartment buildings in the suburbs on the left bank of the river, which only confirms the fact that every shot from the HVO positions was fired randomly and with only one thought in mind; to destroy and cause damage. Yesterday morning, the (?Zalin) suburb suffered a genuine artillery attack, in which HVO artillery fired more than 50 shells. A tank shell was fired at this suburb at 2100 [1900 GMT]. There were no casualties, and the defenders responded only when it was absolutely necessary." He adds that the HVO are "carrying on with their dirty work. The bridge on the Neretva [words indistinct] came under sniper fire for most of yesterday." He says that "the command of the Fourth Corps stated that in the afternoon HVO fighters used a moving vehicle to fire on the suburbs in the southern part of the city with antiaircraft machine guns." He also says that "at around 1900 yesterday, the Chetniks opened fire with antiaircraft machine guns and guns from their positions on (?Snjezna) Gora." He adds that "observers have informed the commander of the Fourth Corps, Arif Pasalic, that the HVO has shown readiness and initiative to reopen negotiations between the military commissions of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the HVO. The idea is to hold the talks in mutually agreed locations on both banks of the Neretva. Negotiations between the mixed commissions of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army and the HVO have continued today, as have those between the delegations of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Interior Ministry and the HVO police." He adds that "the day of [the Muslim religious festival] Kurbam Bajram in Mostar is much quieter than in recent days. Commander of the HVO Supreme Command Milvoj Petkovic's order has surely contributed a lot to this. According to Radio Bosnia of the Croatian community of Herceg-Bosna, Petkovic ordered an absolute cessation of hostilities in the days of Kurbam Bajram. If the negotiations of the mixed commissions are successful, it is expected that the free movement of Mostar citizens will be made possible so as to enable Muslims to visit their friends and relatives."

UN Accused of Dropping Aid to 'Murderers'

LD0206220693 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Dispatch by correspondent Fahrudin Becic from Goradze]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] The defenders destroyed three tanks and killed more than 50 mercenaries, commando soldiers from Nis [city in Serbia], and local Chetniks at the Visegrad battlefield today but the aggressor's attacks on liberated Gorazde territory are not abating. Our correspondent reports from Gorazde.

[Becic] The people and defenders of Gorazde were shocked to learn that the Restore Hope [as heard] operation dropped aid twice over the village of Kaostice, which is controlled by Chetniks. In this way at least 30 metric tons of aid was given to their murderers instead of to hungry people. It is difficult to say if this was a coincidence.

The village of Kaostice is 20 km away from Gorazde and UN officials have already received reports that clashes have been taking place only seven kilometers northeast of Gorazde. Chetniks resumed their fierce attacks, targeting defense lines, Gorazde, and its suburbs with incendiary shells. [passage omitted]

The Chetnik offensive is continuing as the enemy is regrouping its forces and attacking from the direction of Pale, Cajnice, and Foca.

Serbs Move Front Line Toward Doboj

AU0206155693

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1300 GMT on 2 June carries in its regular 35-minute newscast two reports on the situation in Gradacac and the Doboj region.

The Gradacac Information Center reports that "at 1015 [0815 GMT] this morning, a fierce artillery attack was launched from Vis on Mionica. The aggressor used mortars and recoilless guns, and at 1100 a genuinely fiery barrage pulverized the town, its outskirts and free territory well behind the front lines. From all directions and with all kinds of weapons, the Chetniks pounded the defensive positions and civilian targets. A tank from [word indistinct], two tanks from (?Zeletici), howitzers from Skugric and Turic, 120-mm mortars from Visovi, plus Pragas and antiaircraft machine guns, turned the Gradacac valley into a veritable inferno. The Chetniks also used incendiary shells, and five houses are still in flames in the town as we report. There is no information yet about possible casualties."

In his report from Gracanica, Omer Delic says that "in a counteroffensive, our forces moved the front line deep toward Doboj, liberating a large part of recently occupied territory. Early this morning the fighting was continuing and is still in progress now. Hour by hour, our forces advance further. During these clashes, over 400 shells landed on the area of (?Sopotnica)."

Serbs, Muslims Embattled

LD0206141793 Pale Radio-Televizija Republike Srpske Studio-S Radio in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Report by Radmila Slavuljica from Radio Doboj]

[Excerpt] Fierce fighting against Muslim units is in progress in the vicinity of Doboj. Muslims based in Klokotnica and Lukavica tried to carry out a fierce offensive against the eastern lines of Doboj defense and in the Spreca River valley. Fierce, almost hand-to-hand fighting is underway in the defense of positions where the Muslims tried to break the defense lines, supported by extremely stong artillery forces. [passage omitted]

Attacks on Maglaj, Brcko, Gracanica Reported

AU0306101893

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 0800 GMT on 3 June carries, in its regular 17-minute newscast, several reports on the fighting in the Republic.

Hajrudin Sermic reports from Maglaj on "enemy artillery not keeping calm yesterday. Several shells were fired from the guns of the (name indistinct] type at the suburb of [name indistinct] and caused new material damage. Tank and infantry assaults in the afternoon on the defense positions in the regions of (?Gradacac) (?Krajisnik) and (?Krsko Polje) haVe been successfully repulsed. Frequent provocations with infantry weapons and portable rocket launchers have been registered along other sections of the line of separation. Defense lines are firm and stable."

Hamiz Deronjic and Nihad Salihovic report from Brcko on "defenders of the northern corridor again report (?strong) explosions of Chetnik artillery shells. After they carried out provocations with infantry weapons and light artillery pieces for most of the day yesterday, in the early evening hours the aggressor introduced a recoilless gun into his attacks on [name indistinct] and Omerbegovaca and thereby begun a fierce shelling of the Brcko defense lines. With 82-mm mortars, the Chetniks pounded Rijeke, Dizdarusa, and Omerbegovaca, which was the target of fierce mortar attacks from (?Cadjavac) last night. The fire from 60-mm and 82-mm mortars from the direction of Suljagica Sokak against Licki Most was supported by a 40-mm antiaircraft gun. Throughout last night, Chetniks fired from Praga and snipers in the direction of [name indistinct]." Further on, the report says that "at 0330 [0130 GMT] this morning, a fierce mortar attack was launched against (?Bajici), Lipovac, and Bukovac. The aggressor has been firing with 80-mm and 12-mm mortars against these free villages."

The Information Center of the Gradacac War Presidency reports that "after a (?15-day) lull, the Gradacac people had another hellish day yesterday. Artillery attacks from all directions were directed at the town defense lines and suburbs. Howitzers from Skugrici and tanks from Guc and [words indistinct] throughout the entire day, yesterday." Further on, the report says that over 700 shells of all calibers were used in the Chetnik madness yesterday. The report says that "the Chetniks continued their offensive activities directed at the regions of [name indistinct] One and Two at which the aggressor is firing 80-mm and 120-mm mortars from Skugric, and since 0630 has been shelling defenders' positions from [name indistinct]."

Finally, it is said that "as I report, a strange lull reigns in Gradacac."

In a mostly indistinct report from Gracanica, Omer Delic says that "throughout the entire day, yesterday, the enemy continued a fierce offensive on the free territory of the Doboj Commune." Further on, Delic says that "since the early morning hours, Chetniks have been shelling Gracanica from Ozren. Until the moment [words indistinct] more than 50 tank shells have fallen on Gracanica."

A studio announcer cites the Zavidovici Press Center as reporting a 120-mm howitzer attacking the very center of the town and the suburban settlements.

In a mostly indistinct report, a studio announcer says that "reports collected from public security stations say that this morning in Sarajevo is passing in (?relative) peace."

Serbs Claim Muslim Forces Using Banned Chemical Agent

AU0206145893 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Miso Vujovic report from Cajnice]

[Text] The fighting around Gorazde, the biggest bastion of Islam in the lower part of the Drina basin, is continuing with the same ferocity for the seventh day. According to Lieutenant Rade Danilovic, commander of the Cajnice Brigade, the strong Muslim forces carried out a fierce artillery attack on the Cerovo Guvno and Medena Glavica from the Oglocevo last night and this morning. The attack caused considerable material damage, especially in the village of Miljeno, where a pipe and wire factory and several houses suffered damaged. Fortunately, no one was killed or wounded.

In the fighting, the Muslim extremists used a chemical agent, (?fermin), against the Serbian forces on the front defense lines. This agent is banned with all international conventions. After strong artillery fire, the enemy launched a strong infantry attack early this morning. The attack was supported with artillery fire. The Serb defenders repelled the attack by the so-called Army of Bosnia-Herzegovina, as they have all others so far.

Croats Not To Allow Humanitarian Aid Into Tuzla

LD0206135393 Pale Radio-Televizija Republike Srpske Studio-S Radio in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Members of the Croatian Defense Council have destroyed two mosques in Gradacac, a SRNA correspondent from Banja Luka has reported, quoting well-informed sources. The same sources have said that the Croatian Defense Council announced that it will no longer allow humanitarian convoys for Muslims in the Tuzla and Doboj regions to pass.

Apart from sporadic provocations from artillery and small arms weapons, there have been no serious conflicts between Muslim and Croatian forces in the area of Gradacac, but the situation is extremely tense.

Muslims Violate Mostar Cease-Fire; Croats Block Aid

LD0306121693 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Correspondent Slavko Rako report from Mostar]

[Text] Last night was relatively quiet on the frontlines in the zone of responsibility of the southeastern Herzegovina operational zone, the command of the operational zone reports. The night in Mostar followed its usual pattern—Muslim units violated the cease-fire and Muslim snipers targeted the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] Tihomir Misic barracks, roads, crossroads, and bridges. According to the HVO Command of the operational zone, HVO units responded adequately to Muslim attacks. One HVO soldier was killed and one lightly wounded.

The border crossing between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina in Vinjani Donji, near Imotski, is jammed by dozens of trucks bound for Tuzla. Croatian border police are allowing the trucks through, but the border patrol of the Croat Community of Herceg-Bosna has received orders to stop the convoys. This was indicated to the Muslim side several days ago at a meeting of the Croat-Muslim commission in Mostar. After the meeting it was stated that transit of convoys for Muslim areas in central Bosnia will not be permitted until the Muslim Army permits convoys to enter the encircled Croat villages in the Konjic municipality. The Muslim forces have been besieging these villages for almost two months. The Muslims are attacking the villages and even UN Protection Forces are not allowed to enter them. Sporadic small-arms fire was heard in Mostar this morning.

Muslims Fail To Accept Zepa Demilitarization

LD0206124493 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1143 GMT 2 Jun 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Bratunac, June 2 (TANJUG)—The region of Zepa, a Moslem enclave in eastern Bosnia, has not been demilitarized despite the expiration on June 2 of all deadlines, the Army of the Serb Republic in Bosnia-Herzegovina announced on Wednesday.

Members of a commission, including officers of the Serb Republic's Army, Bosnian Moslem officers and U.N. representatives, saw for themselves that only one rifle was surrendered to U.N. troops on Tuesday, in addition to 64 pieces of mainly unusable small arms surrendered earlier by Moslem formations.

The commission is on Thursday to establish the results of the demilitarization process in the Moslem enclave of Srebrenica. The commission delegation for Srebrenica will be headed by UNPROFOR Chief-of-Staff for the former Bosnia-Herzegovina Vere Hayes.

Moslem formations from Srebrenica have so far ignored a decision on demilitarization and failed to surrender arms to UNPROFOR by the April 18 deadline.

Sniper Kills Journalist Traveling With UN Convoy

AU0206180193 Paris AFP in English 1753 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Zagreb, June 2 (AFP)—A Belgian journalist working for a Mexican television service was shot dead by a sniper Wednesday [2 June] while travelling with a U.N. convoy in southwest Bosnia-Herzegovina, U.N. forces announced here.

Dominique Lonneux was hit in the head near Dreznica, outside Mostar, at 11.40 A.M. (0940 GMT), said the spokesman for the Spanish U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) troops in Medjugorje.

Radio Sarajevo said the sniper's shot came from Croatian positions.

Lonneux was rushed to Jablanica hospital in an armoured car, but died shortly before arrival, said UNPROFOR.

The car in which Lennox was travelling was clearly marked "TV".

More than 30 foreign journalists have been killed in former Yugoslavia since the start of hostilities in 1991. The French organisation Reporters Sans Frontieres says the war in ex-Yugoslavia is one of the bloodiest-ever for pressmen.

Government Denies Paraga's 'Unfounded Accusations'

LD0206222093 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2105 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Excerpt] The public relations office of the Croatian Government has issued a statement rejecting as totally false the allegations made by Dobrosav Paraga, leader of the Croatian Party of Rights, at the National Press Club in Washington, which were carried by SLOBODNA DALMACIJA.

It goes on to say that in his unfounded accusations Mr. Paraga said that the Croatian Government had pressed charges against several distinguished journalists who had openly criticized President Tudjman and his policies.

The statement also firmly denies that the Croatian Government or any of its members have connections of any kind with any assassination attempts, including the murder of trade union leader Milan Krivokuca, as alleged by Mr. Paraga. The government examined the accusations during its session on 1 June and will protect its integrity from insinuations and lies. [passage omitted]

Kenyan UN Officers Wounded Near Benkovac

AU0206150293 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Damir Kozul report from Benkovac]

[Text] At exactly 0430 [0230 GMT] this morning, Croatian forces carried out a strong artillery-tank attack on the Serbian villages of Ceranje, Miranje, and (?Ognjive), south of Benkovac. The shelling lasted until 0700. We do not have information on possible casualties among the civilians in these villages. Material damage is enormous.

Those who suffered most in this brutal attack on [words indistinct] civilians were the members of the Kenyan UNPROFOR battalion. Their camp in Miranje, 4 km south of Benkovac, was hit by four projectiles. Several Kenyan officers and soldiers were wounded seriously. They were taken to the Knin hospital immediately after the attack. One of them is in a critical condition.

Up to now, the day on the Benkovac-Obrovac front has been characterized with sporadic attacks by the enemy. Our Serbian army is responding in kind.

Tudjman To Resume Talks With Owen, Stoltenberg

LD0306085093 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 0805 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Text] Croatian President Franjo Tudjman met yesterday with the co-chairmen of the peace conference on former Yugoslavia Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

They discussed possibilities in Croatia and in Bosnia-Herzegovina of putting into action plans that have been agreed on to date, and what influence the world community has to solve the crisis in former Yugoslavia.

In the talks that will resume today, Foreign Minister Mate Granic, [National] Defense Minister Gojko Susak, and the head of the president's office Jure Radic will take part.

Decision on Price Increases; Gasoline Up by 40 Percent

LD0206145193 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Excerpts] As we have reported, at a session last night the Croatian Government passed decisions on increasing retail prices of several goods and products.

Basic oil products will go up by 40.5 percent. [passage omitted]

The Croatian Government has allowed an increase in the price of electricity, for households and public lighting by 67 percent and for other users by 53.7 percent.

The transport of goods and passengers in internal railway traffic has gone up by 49 percent.

Standing telephone charges, which include 60 impulses, have been increased from 1,000 to 1,600 Croatian dinars. Monthly television and radio licenses will cost 8,500 dinars.

Future Relations With Serbs in Croatia Viewed

93BA1042B Zagreb GLOBUS in Serbo-Croatian 14 May 93 pp 9-10

[Interview with Veselin Pejnovic, vice president of the Serbian People's Party and chief of that party's caucus in the Croatian Assembly, by Robert Naprta; place and date not given: "The Serbs Ought To Elect Their Own Zupan in the Knin-Glina Zupanija!"]

[Text] Veselin Pejnovic is vice president of the Serbian People's Party [SNS] and heads the caucus of that party's deputies in the Croatian Assembly. He was born in the vicinity of Pozega. Since the age of 14, he has been living in Zagreb, where he graduated from the Military High School and the School of Political Science at Zagreb University. He has worked as a teacher in the Nikola Tesla High School in Zagreb, but later he was chief of the Center for Intelligence and a specialist for defense preparations in Samobor Opcina. In July 1991, he was fired from that position, and after that he worked for a time in the government of the RH [Republic of Croatia] as an adviser for interethnic relations. In the summer of that year, he first met Milan Djukic, president of the just-established Serbian People's Party, and after that he became involved in its work. After nearly two years of active involvement in politics, Veselin Pejnovic, parliamentary deputy of the SNS, has managed to establish

himself with the Croatian public as the second most important and influential politician among the Serbs loyal to Croatia. Since very recently, especially with the "Skoric case," the Serbian question has again become relevant in Croatia, we talked with Mr. Pejnovic about certain aspects of the crisis of Serbian-Croatian relations.

[Naprta] Mr. Pejnovic, the "Skoric case" has again put Croatian-Serbian relations at the center of attention of the domestic public, but also a part of the world public. Can you explain what actually happened?

[Pejnovic] This was an oversight of the government Protocol Office, which allowed Skoric to appear in the meeting between the parliamentary delegations of Croatia and Russia. As is well-known, Mr. Skoric came to that meeting at the request of Zivko Juzbasic, who informed the Protocol Office over the telephone just before the actual meeting that "it would be good" for Skoric to also attend the meeting of our own and Russian parliamentarians. As far as we are concerned, the important thing is that all of Skoric's allegations about the existence of concentration camps in Croatia were immediately denied by an eyewitness in the field. Mr. Skoric is not a member of the SNS nor of any of its bodies, he has not paid his dues for the last three months, and under the party's bylaws he has been removed from the membership rolls. His credentials from our party are no longer valid.

[Naprta] Until recently, Mr. Skoric was carrying other credentials as well: Those of the Department for Protection of the Constitutional Order [SZUP], and it seemed to many people that in his case the Serbs were used to serve the needs of one of the factions of the HDZ [Croatian Democratic Union] in fights within the party. Much the same thing was repeated in the "Kralj case," in which an informer of the SZUP was given the "credit" for making news of the murder of a trade union leader of Serbian nationality, which he attempted to attribute to the deputy prime minister....

[Pejnovic] I would not say that that was an attempt to manipulate the Serbs. The fact that Skoric had credentials of the SZUP does not prove that at all. Nevertheless, this is a classic showdown within the Serbian community. That is, I say—and I hope that time will show it—that Mr. Skoric served a certain current of Serbs in Croatia in settling accounts with the Serbian People's Party. The basis of that conflict is that some people have been trying for two years now to compromise the SNS in every way, portraying it as a Serbian wing of the HDZ which has direct ties to the MUP [Ministry of Internal Affairs]. The "Skoric case" was in fact concocted to that end.

[Naprta] Which people are settling accounts with you?

[Pejnovic] You know about the statements which have been made from Vienna to New York to the effect that the SNS is a puppet party of Dr. Franjo Tudjman, and such statements have come from the Serbian Democratic Forum [SDF], especially from Milorad Pupovac, who heads it. We support the opinion that the problem of the Serbs in Croatia should be solved at three levels: Zagreb-Belgrade, Zagreb-Knin, and finally, Zagreb-Zagreb. We will insist that our representatives from the SNS be part of all government delegations representing Croatia in future negotiations. The other day, Mr. Pupovac, as far as I know, made a trip to Belgrade, where obviously he enjoys the great confidence of the political bigwigs there, which was never important to me. What I want is to enjoy the confidence of my voters, the Serbs in Croatia, who are loyal citizens of this country. Pupovac has constantly been trying to represent himself in all of his statements, mainly international, as the legitimate representative of the Serbs in Croatia. Both he and Messrs. Skoric and Juzbasic have had occasion to present their political program to the Serbian voters in Croatia, but they did not do so, but this has been done by the SNS, which received 30,000 votes in the last election. The other day, I was terribly angry at Pupovac, who in a meeting of the Government Committee for Normalization of Croatian-Serbian Relations was talking constantly about the regions under control of the UN forces. But such areas do not exist, and it is not possible to talk in those categories. There is only the territory of the state of Croatia, which is internationally recognized and sovereign, over certain areas of which temporary control of the United Nations has been established because of the events of the war.

[Naprta] How is it, as you see it, that Mr. Juzbasic, a former member of the government of the Republic of Croatia, all of a sudden became politically close to Pupovac?

[Pejnovic] It is mostly a question of Juzbasic not getting his bearings in the restructuring of the political activity of the Serbs in Croatia. During these two years, a new model of political activity of the Serbs has crystallized in Croatia, one that is based on completely democratic principles. There is no longer any place here for Partizanism and the principles of ZAVNOH [Croatian Regional Antifascist Council of National Liberation]. That model was superseded long ago. In this historical context that is new for all of us, and that also would include Juzbasic, he simply has not been able to get his bearings, he has been unable to recognize the new democratic codes of political behavior and activity, and he has begun to use what he knew from before, and that is a political framework that has long ago been superseded.

[Naprta] Before the war, certain independent Serbian intellectuals in Croatia like Miric, Roksandic, and Bamburac were very much present in the public, but for three years now we have heard nothing from them. Why are they silent?

[Pejnovic] As far as I know, Professor Miric is very ill, and I think that is the main reason for his abstinence. As for the other independent Serbian intellectuals, as you refer to them, I think that we might say that they are all going to their jobs regularly, but they are not present in

the public, because they do not represent anyone. Or, better put, the independent Serbian intellectuals have no political platform at all. Nor are the independent Croatian intellectuals, who are also having problems articulating their views in public, in any better position, because they do not represent anyone. Both those independent intellectuals and their regular appearance in public are also one of the outdated models of political and public activity. At first, Mr. Pupovac managed to rally some of the independent Serbian intellectuals around himself in the SDF, but now even that is withering away, and as Pupovac himself has announced, the SDF will soon cease to exist. It is also essential to say of him that he suffers chronically from leaderism and is not inclined to seek constructive solutions in his political activity. And all of that around Pupovac and his SDF is nothing other than the work of a group of self-styled political activists who are articulating certain issues concerning the position of Serbian people in Croatia in order to promote themselves and their own interest. By contrast with them, the SNS has full legitimacy to speak in the name and on behalf of that segment of the Serbian people in Croatia which voted for us in the election. For example, our legitimacy can be seen in the fact that the candidate who headed the SNS list in the last election in the Pozega-Slavonia Zupanija was a man who at that time was in prison and who was offered exchange, but he nevertheless remained in Croatia. So, that man could have gone to Serbia, but he remained and did not want to be exchanged. Where are you going to find greater legitimacy than that?

[Naprta] According to the 1991 Census, almost 600,000 Serbs were living in Croatia before the war. Are there figures on how many of those Serbs have left Croatia and how many are living in occupied areas and how many in areas under full sovereignty of Croatia?

[Pejnovic] Somewhat fewer Serbs are living on the entire region of the Republic of Croatia, that is, including the UNPA [UN-protected areas], than lived there before the war. No one, unfortunately, has complete figures on this. There are many who have moved from that part of Croatia to the occupied areas, especially to Baranja, and the number of those who have left Croatia altogether and moved to the countries of West Europe, the United States, Canada, or Serbia we estimate to range somewhere between 110,000 and 150,000 people. So, if in Croatia before the war there were 580,000 Serbs, we now estimate them on the entire territory of the Republic of Croatia at about 450,000. Of that number, according to our figures and approximate estimates, between 120,000 and 150,000 Serbs are living on the territory of the Croatian state which is under control of Croatian authorities. Another 300,000 Croatian Serbs are living on the occupied territories of the so-called krajinas. According to those figures which we possess, about 25,000 to 30,000 Serbs are living in the city of Zagreb.

[Naprta] Which means that four out of five Serbs have denied loyalty to the Croatian state and left either for the occupied areas or abroad?

[Pejnovic] A majority of the Serbs have remained in Croatia. Baranja is Croatia, Knin is Croatia, Banija is Croatia. The Serbs are there, but so is Croatia there. The worst thing for Croatia is that the Serbs have left the urban areas. In Osijek, for example, only 6,000 have remained of the 34,000 Serbs recorded by the 1991 Census; in Vinkovci, about 5 percent of the Serbs at the most are left out of 14,000; much the same is true in the other cities where Serbs represented a sizable percentage before the war. The exodus of Serbs from the cities is continuing.

[Naprta] Knin and Baranja are territorially in Croatia, but it is hard to believe that the Serbs who live there believe that. If a military solution of the question of the occupied Croatian regions is resorted to, do you think that the Serbs who live in the krajinas will stay there?

[Pejnovic] Private property, apartments, houses, those are all international categories, no one can take that away from anyone. A temporary departure of entire Serbian families from the regions of the Zadar hinterland in the recent past, just as earlier from the region of western Slavonia, does not mean that those people will not go back there when the war is over. The Serbs have the right to return to their home and hearth, as that is put today, unless different statutes are adopted. If they are in fact adopted, there is no way they can comply with international standards. As for the Maslenica action, your statement is not quite accurate that all the Serbs fled to Knin; some of them passed over to the area under Croatian supervision, and I have even had occasion to talk to those people. Viewed generally, no military option aimed at driving the Serbs from their home and hearth has any future. A possible military solution, then, should be aimed only at those exercising Serbian military authority in that region. In the occupied areas there are about 10,000 militant Serbs, and military action should be taken against them. The problem is that those 10 percent of the militant members of the military junta which is in power in the occupied Croatian areas will use all the other Serbs in that region, who are not involved in the armed rebellion and terrorism, just to justify their own survival. After all, if almost all the Serbs who now live in the regions of the so-called krajinas were involved in terrorism and armed rebellion, then the situation would be considerably worse for Croatia. A military junta is in power in those krajinas. There is no law-governed state at all, but those militant Serbs are behaving according to the simple principle: "Whoever is not with us is against us!" That, of course, instills fear in all those who think more soberly. The law on clemency was precisely adopted because of those 90 percent of Serbs in the occupied areas who have not committed war crimes, who have not organized rebellion, and who have not taken part in commanding military and paramilitary units and in the self-styled krajina bodies of government. So, those people are the vast majority, including even those who have taken direct part in the armed rebellion, but who put on a uniform under coercion or some kind of mobilization, because otherwise they would have been

shot. When the problem is looked at that way, there is good reason to speak about the 10 percent of those who have violated Croatian laws, and many of them even came from outside, from Serbia.

[Naprta] At your party's last press conference, it was announced that the political program of the SNS was being redefined concerning the status of the Serbs in Croatia, all the way to the demand to amend the Constitutional Law on Minorities, and indeed even to change the definition of the Croatian state as the national state of the Croatian people....

[Pejnovic] In politics, never say never, and no political program or process can be set down for all time. For me, the political autonomy of Knin does not mean anything here in Zagreb. But as for the territorial and political autonomy of Serbs in the Glina and Knin Districts, I think that time will show that separate zupanijas should have been formed from those districts even at the time when the constitutional law was adopted, and at some point this will happen. In the separate Knin-Glina Zupanija, the Serbs should also elect their own zupan and have a higher degree of local self-government than offered by the present framework of the constitutional law. But, I repeat, as a citizen I am not interested at all in what the Serb from Knin wants. I want to be the citizen of a state which is defined not as a national state of the Croatian people, but as a state of all its citizens. I am, of course, aware that that will not easily come about, but it is not clear to me, not even as a citizen, even though I am a Serb, why these Serbs in Knin, if they want, should not have Cyrillic or a higher degree of local self-government! As for the SNS, we think that all options concerning this are open and that they can be talked about only after the war is over. The only thing that cannot be discussed is the territorial integrity of the Croatian state. If the Serbs from the krajinas consent to that condition, we can help them to articulate their demands for autonomy with the Croatian authorities. So, our position is that the constitutional law needs to be amended concerning minorities in a direction that would guarantee the Serbs a zupanija and a higher degree of local self-government. It is clear to us that it is impossible to seek redefinition of the Croatian state, to demand that the Serbs become a constituent nationality, although the election law actually treats us in that status—as a nationality, because we as a national community are given the election threshold of 3 percent, just like all the other Croatian, political parties. As for changing the name of the SNS, nothing specific has been decided as yet. We only know that we will not call it the Serbian Democratic Union.

Federal

Cosic Statement on Dismissal From Post

LD0206175593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1510 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—Regarding the Federal Assembly decision to relieve him of his post of republican president, Dobrica Cosic forwarded the following statement to TANJUG:

"Not being in the position to address the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from the Assembly rostrum, I am doing this via TANJUG. I accepted the post of president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the time when the world had punished our country with sanctions and isolation. Serbia and Montenegro embarked upon the process of democratic transformation slowly and inconsistently; Serbia with a strong authoritarian government and Titoist-style political system; Montenegro open for emancipation but nailed to her rugged rocks with her historical heritage. Accelerated economic regression, pauperization of the population, and deterioration of natural and human resources over the past few decades threatened to turn into a social and national catastrophe at the time of international sanctions.

"Although I was very dissatisfied with the character of the FRY Constitution and principles on the basis of which Serbia and Montenegro were reunited, I accepted the post of FRY president with a clear intention of encouraging cultural renewal of our society and the creation of a democratic, law-governed, socially just, efficient, and cheap state in which national and civil rights and liberties would be founded on universal human rights. 'Modern federation,' the proclaimed objective of the Serbian political leadership, was forgotten precisely when the FRY was created and when it started to function.

"I believed that for these great goals to be achieved it was necessary to have a new state, national policy, and new people in politics. In my inaugural address to the Federal Assembly I stated inter alia three preconditions for all positive changes in our society to take place: early democratic elections for the republican and federal assemblies; a government of national unity, that is, a competent government of experts; and a fundamental reform of the constitutions of the FRY and the constituent republics.

"Out of the above objectives, which in my view were of crucial and historical interest for Serbia and Montenegro and which in my opinion could have become political objectives of the majority of deputies in the Federal Assembly, only one has been realized: early elections whose democratic credentials did not satisfy Serbian opposition and critical public. Conservative and extreme forces, which are starting to take our parliamentary and political life into regression, the people into poverty and despair, and the state into catastrophe, have gained strength in the Assembly.

"Following the public political disaccord with Slobodan Milosevic, the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS], and the Serbian Government on foreign and internal affairs; following the appropriation of the building, equipment, and communications system of the Federal Ministry for Internal Affairs and the liquidation of the Federal State Security Service in October 1992, carried out by the Ministry for Internal Affairs of Serbia; following the Federal Assembly's rebuff to my demand that the Federal Assembly tackle these threats to the country's constitutional system; following its rebuff to my suggestion that my mandate be tested under the Constitution by the new assembly; following the assembly's rejection of, among others, my candidates for judges of the Constitutional Court; following my refusal to follow the demand of the SPS and the Serbian Radical Party [SRS] that prior to elections, something that inevitably results in a change of government, president of the government Milan Panic be ousted, and even be arrested as Seselj and Milosevic wished, I would rather not carry on listing further disagreements between myself and the assembly's majority—it was obvious that this was a matter of two hardly reconcilable policies. It was evident that I in my capacity as president of the republic had no support from the new, present assembly either.

"This was unambiguously confirmed by the SPS and SRS as they demanded that I be ousted. I was not ousted earlier by the SRS-SPS coalition due to certain opposition from Montenegro and the Serbian president's realization that my ousting would have brought about certain additional difficulties, particularly from abroad. The outcome of the December election and the establishment of the SPS-SRS coalition, a deadly coalition in terms of the country's future between two authoritarian parties, the latter is also explicitly extremist, convinced me that there was no political will on the part of this coalition in the Federal Assembly to support the democratic reforms of the state and society and the materialization of the aims that made me accept the duty of president of the republic.

"A large part of the opposition expressed and is expressing disagreement and opposition to my political views and activities because, among other things, I have not met their main demand: the removal of Slobodan Milosevic from power at any cost. Without a party, without a paper or other media, without an active political population, without organized and permanent support from any side, I was and have stayed alone on the heated political scene while having great moral responsibility to the citizens of Serbia and Montenegro.

"These circumstances made it obligatory for me to withdraw from the post of republican president and to remain loyal to my convictions and to my preelection announcement. I did not do this because I believed that with my efforts directed at creating a peaceful foreign

policy I could have influenced European and U.S. policies towards the FRY to change; simply, I started to believe that it was not honorable to leave my post at the most difficult times for the people. Numerous citizens and friends, Patriarch Pavle, and prominent nonparty personalities were also telling me this. I also did not resign in January because some foreign statesmen and prominent personalities advised me not to leave my post because of the exceptionally unfavorable international position for the FRY in which my resignation would harm my country.

"With heavy heart I listened to my domestic and foreign advisers and continued to discharge my duties within an unusually limited scope. Subjected to vulgar attacks by nationalist extremists, specifically the SRS and deceitful intolerance of their allies from the SPS, subjected to political moroseness and obstruction on the part of the majority of opposition leaders and their followers in tabloids—the efficiency of my efforts, the essence of my being in the post of the republican president were brough into question daily. My appeal to the public on Christmas eve, when I expressed deep concern for our tomorrow, precisely people most responsible for today's misfortunes, which are daily getting worse, ignored me and called me a 'catastrophe-monger.' A large part of the opposition, in its political point-scoring, also ignored my appeal.

"In February, when the government of Radoje Kontic was formed, I tried with all my might to persuade the Serbian president and the leader of the SPS, the ruling political party in Serbia, that due to a very difficult situation in which the state has found itself and prospects of its further deterioration, a government of experts and national salvation ought to be formed. My proposals were resolutely turned down with the arrogant support from the Fuhrer of the SRS, with a remark that their political rights were won in December elections.

"In March, the Constitutional Commission of the Federal Assembly definitely turned down my proposal for the carrying out of constitutional reforms, and the only constitutional issue it was concerned with was the issue how to carry out the replacement of the president of the republic.

"I did not resign then because I still believed that I would personally weaken our efforts to improve our already unbearable position in the international community by pursuing a peacemaking policy. Increasingly displeased with the economic, political, and moral situation in society, increasingly worried because of the strengthening of aggressive nationalistic extremism arising in the wake of hegemonistic perseverance of the SPS and its leader, despondent over the political and moral impotence of the opposition parties and patriotic forces to salvage the country which is plunging into a chaos in which the worst are always the winners, I have decided to do whatever could be done under the most serious circumstances, no matter how big the importance of it may be. Here is the situation in which we are today, as I view it.

"Through the political regression and the balance of forces in the Federal and the republican Assemblies, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has become a three-layer state in which the third state, the federal one, is the weakest and almost without any influence on politics and life of the people of Serbia and Montenegro, whose political disunion is becoming increasingly obvious. Not only has the Serbian Constitution not been harmonized with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but it is directly at odds with it, while the Serbian Assembly does not even think of changing its Constitution. Neither has the reformed Montenegrin Constitution consistently been harmonized with the principles and character of the modern federal state. Both republics retained all ministries that the Federal Government has—ministries of defense, foreign affairs, sport, science, foreign trade, ecology, and other institutions that belong to the modern federal state. With such a structure the Zabljak Yugoslavia became weaker, less united, more bureaucratic, and a relatively more expensive state than the Brioni, self-management Yugoslavia which was created with the aim to disintegrate. For well-known reasons, the foreign factors respect and encourage the three-layer character of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

"The federal state, if it is a state at all, is practically under the protectorate of Slobodan Milosevic and the Serbian Government. Serbia has, through its policy, subordinated the federal state by first appropriating its internal affairs and state security services. Later on the president of Serbia, personally and for all practical purposes, took control of the federal state's foreign policy by installing his republican minister for internal affairs as the Federal Government's minister for foreign affairs, thus arbitrarily appropriating the Federal Government's powers. By having a majority of their ministers in the Federal Government, the SPS, i.e. the president of Serbia, controls the Federal Government.

"This policy pursued by the president of Serbia and the SPS was met by the republican leadership and most political parties in Montenegro with pronounced insistence on their state sovereignty and personal parity in the federal state, regarding it above all as their best possibility of development. Encouraged by the president of Serbia's interference in foreign policies, Montenegro has recently been explicitly demonstrating its sovereignty in foreign policy by not adjusting its foreign policy to that of the federal state, something that undermines the already shaky authority of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and fuels the traditional separatism and Comintern ideology on Montenegrin soil.

"The three-layer state formation whereby only the army is federal, Yugoslav, perpetuates the old gigantic bureaucratic system. It is rife with contradiction, inert, ineffective, and so expensive that our increasingly poor country cannot support it. This lamentable state of affairs in the

federal state and its internal relations is perpetuated and compounded by the Federal Assembly as the passive and conservative majority of its deputies are not up to the country's pressing needs at this historic juncture.

"I have unsuccessfully been drawing the attention of the leading people of the Federal Government and both republics, who are responsible most for policies in this country, to this state of the federal state, something that is supported by valid evidence. Why was I dismissed from the post of republican president in a coup d'etat which Slobodan Milosevic carried out in the parliament and with a well-prepared support from Vojislav Seselj? Because the Serbian president could no longer tolerate my opposition to his policies and to his tyrannical will. In his passionate love for power, Slobodan Milosevic started to fear from my regular working meeting with the Yugoslav Army Command, at which we discussed the army cadre problems. His ambitious spies told him about some of my 'political deviations' expressed during the discussion, and he panicked and interpreted these as 'preparations for a military coup' which would topple him. As an ideological student of Stalin and Lenin, Milosevic came up with a routine idea of 'unauthorized minutes' which socialists loyal to him—Nedeljko Sipovac, Radmilo Bogdanovic, and Milomir Minic—in line with a communist stereotype of 'uncovering of a plot,' revealed to their group of deputies and in battle unity with Seselj's deputies, they proved my antistate activities, that is 'violation of the Constitution.'

"I state that there is no recording of my meeting with 'the top brass.' There are notes taken by the officers there but this is not a recording. I call on Slobodan Milosevic and his aides to publicize this 'recording' or at least to show it to a state or parliamentary commission. I have the minutes of this 'secret meeting' with the generals and I am willing to acquaint the public with everything that is not military secret, something that I am duty-bound to keep under my vow.

"A classical Stalinist act, in terms of procedure and aims, took place in the Federal Assembly: two totalitarian parties ousted a president of republic by using their majority and defamation. This act inflicts a great deal of political and moral damage on Serbia and Montenegro, thus further disfiguring the already deformed face of our people. To somehow salvage the democratic potential of this society, although I am completely disinterested in my 'own rehabilitation,' I suggest to the Federal Assembly to form a state commission which will examine 'the recording' of the meeting between the supreme commander and his general staff and talk to the generals taking part in this session held on 27 May and inform the public of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia about its findings. If it fails to do so the Federal Assembly will confirm that in our country a totalitarian system is being legitimately restored by the SPS and the SRS.

"Finally, I have to concede. I have 'violated' the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I did more than what the Constitution required. What I did will be judged nonetheless by history and the passage of time."

[Dated] Belgrade, 2 June 1993

Jovanovic 'Most Serious' Presidential Candidate

AU0206155493 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 2 Jun 93 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Vladislav Jovanovic New President?"]

[Text] It is natural for those interested in politics to immediately speculate as to who could be Cosic's successor. From the constitutional point of view, it is Serbia's turn to provide a president for the federal state. BORBA has learned that there has been much talk that Milosevic's most serious candidate for the president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia could be Vladislav Jovanovic, deputy federal prime minister and foreign minister.

Government Denounces SPO Demonstration

LD0206213593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1945 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—The government of the Republic of Serbia opened today's session chaired by Prime Minister Nikola Sainovic, with a tribute to policemen Milorad Nikolic, who died of wounds received in last night's demonstrations in front of the Federal Assembly in Belgrade, the Serbian Ministry for Information has disclosed.

Having discussed a report by competent bodies about events in front of the federal parliament and in the streets of the capital last night, the government has assessed that the constitutional system has once again been attacked violently and that, after numerous warnings, the Serbian Renewal Movement [SPO] and its chairman Vuk Draskovic are again trying to take power by force.

They are responsible for a senseless assault on the Assembly during which a young policeman was killed, a large number of people were wounded, and considerable material damage was inflicted.

The government has assessed highly the professional, energetic, and dignified conduct of the Ministry of Internal Affairs bodies in preventing violence, in establishing order and arresting organizers and participants in these tragic events.

The government of the Republic of Serbia is reassuring all citizens of Serbia that peace and order are achievements of democratic Serbia, which all state bodies will protect without compromise. Hence, every culprit of last night's events will receive a deserved punishment. [passage omitted]

'Brutal Crimes' Condemned

LD0206194693 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1744 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—At today's session chaired by Prime Minister Radoje Kontic, the Federal Government discussed a report on disturbances in front of the Federal Assembly and on the streets of Belgrade on 1-2 June. It is disclosed in a statement that the Federal Government noted that yesterday and last night public peace and order were seriously disrupted starting first with clashes between party deputies in the Assembly and then continuing with organized clashes between destructive forces and members of the public peace and order on the streets of Belgrade. These and similar clashes are threatening the country's stability, its sovereignty, independence, and peace.

Young policeman Milorad Nikolic lost his life honorably and scores of members of the federal and republican Ministries of Internal Affairs were lightly and seriously wounded. They displayed considerable patience and tolerance when carrying out their duties, and they paid with physical injuries and death.

The Federal Government condemns most sharply these brutal crimes and violence in front of the FRY Assembly and demands that these and similar incidents be prevented with all available means and that perpetrators of these crimes be severely punished. The Federal Government demands from competent bodies to establish urgently responsibility of all people who organized, encouraged, or took part in the violence and destructive activity during the disturbances in front of the FRY Assembly. Tolerance towards these criminal incidents encourages destructive and militant forces not just to commit acts of vandalism, but also to topple the country's constitutional and legal system.

The Federal Government charges its competent bodies to undertake all measures aimed at saving lives of members of the public peace and order from such attacks.

60-Day Jail Sentence

AU0306103293 Paris AFP in English 1008 GMT 3 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, June 3 (AFP)—Serb opposition leader Vuk Draskovic and his wife have been sentenced to 60 days in prison for undermining public order, according to a daily Belgrade newspaper Thursday.

The independant daily BORBA quoting sources said Draskovic and his wife Danica had been arrested Tuesday night at the headquarters of the opposition Serbian Movement for Renewal (SPO). They were arrested along with several party members including parliamentary deputies, despite their parliamentary immunity.

The SPO leaders, who were allegedly beaten up by police, were arrested several hours after violent clashes in the centre of Belgrade between riot police and demonstrators hostile to the government of Serb president Slobodan Milosevic.

A spokesman for the SPO was unable to confirm the arrests to AFP, but said the party's lawyers were trying to find out what had happened.

A police officer died and 30 people were injured in the clashes on Tuesday evening in which 121 people were arrested.

BORBA also claimed that police used Tuesday night's violence to settle old scores with journalists, alleging that about 15 reporters and photographers had been victim of police brutality.

It quoted the case of Lazar Lilic, head of the Belgrade radio and television trade union, who allegedly suffered two broken ribs after being beaten up by several policemen.

SPO Leaders Demand Release

LD0206165393 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1516 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, 2 June (TANJUG)—The leaders of the Serbian Renaissance Movement [SPO] and representatives of a number of opposition parties today demanded that SPO President Vuk Draskovic and others who, as they believe, were unlawfully arrested in the wake of last night's demonstrations outside the Federal Assembly be immediately released from detention.

At a news conference organized by the SPO on yesterday's events in and outside the assembly, SPO Executive Council President Milan Komnenic said that his party had not contributed by any means to the unrest and that it ccannot be held responsible. In Komnenic's words, the demonstration was a spontaneous display of anger on the part of citizens of Belgrade following the physical assault by Serbian Radical Party Deputy Branislav Vakic on SPO Deputy Mihajlo Markovic.

The news conference was attended by a large number of reporters who were also addressed by representatives of the Serbian Democratic Movement, the Democratic Party of Serbia, the Civil Alliance of Serbia, the People's Peasants' Party, and the Serbian Liberal Party.

Draskovic 'Seriously Injured'

LD0206190493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1806 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Text] Belgrade, 2 June (TANJUG)—Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement [SPO], was not interrogated by an investigative judge in a Belgrade district court, Draskovic's lawyer Borivoje Borovic has told TANJUG.

Borovic said that he found out after contacts with duty investigative judge Dragoslav Rakic that Draskovic's interrogation is not scheduled to take place today in spite of "the Belgrade secretariat for internal affairs hinting at such a possibility."

"I am afraid the SPO leader is seriously injured and that is the key reason why he was not interrogated," Borovic said, adding that he has not been allowed to see his client in spite of pleas and frequent visits to the Belgrade secretariat for internal affairs.

Borovic assumes that criminal proceedings will be set in motion against Draskovic. The legal deadline for interrogating suspects is 72 hours from the time of arrest. Unless Draskovic is interrogated within a 72-hour period, he will be released.

Injuries 'Minor'

AU0206162293 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Our reporter Gordana Jevdjovic asked Dr. Rade Vasilic, deputy head of the Emergency Center, to tell us something more about those injured [in the clashes between police and demonstrators in Belgrade on 1 June].

[Vasilic] The total number of people who sought medical help was 32. Out of these, five were kept in for further treatment in the Emergency Center. Unfortunately, one of them died despite all the measures that were taken. This was policeman Milorad Nikolic, who was born in 1969. [passage omitted]

[Jevdjovic] Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, was also in the Emergency Center.

[Vasilic] Yes, Vuk Draskovic arrived in the Emergency Center as a patient at 0620 [0420 GMT] this morning. He was examined in the Neurosurgery Department of the Emergency Center, and, in view of the type of injuries, he was referred to the Maxillofacial Surgery Unit.

[Jevdjovic] According to information that we received at the Maxillofacial Surgery Unit, Vuk Draskovic was examined by Professor Gavric this morning. He established there had been minor bodily harm. Draskovic was released after the examination.

Serbia

UN Sanctions Said To Strengthen 'Regime'

AU0206175793 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 2 Jun 93 p 3

[Oliver Vujovic report: "The Situation Is Disastrous"]

[Text] Belgrade—In an interview with DIE PRESSE, Professor Ljubomir Madzar, former economics minister in Milan Panic's government and one of the most esteemed economic experts of the rest of Yugoslavia, drew up a balance sheet concerning the UN sanctions against the rest of Yugoslavia, which were imposed on 30 May 1992.

"The situation is disastrous," Madzar said. "Of course, not everything is due to the sanctions. The changes in Eastern Europe and the war have contributed much to the deficit. However, at least a third of the present situation can certainly be attributed to the embargo; 1,750,000 people are unemployed or receive salaries without working, 1.2 million are pensioners. They all are paid out of the budget and the state finances its expenditure by hyperinflation, which amounted to 233 percent in March, for example."

As Madzar stressed, last year Serbia's gross national product was half that of 1989, and, compared with 1991, the decline in the various sectors of the economy amounted to as much as 30 percent.

Madzar said that, before the tightening of the UN sanctions in April, many companies had built up reserves to cover five to six months of normal consumption, but which are currently only very sparingly used and therefore will last longer. "Hardly any new apartments are built any longer," Madzar said. "The livestock in agriculture is continuously decreasing. The people wear clothes that were bought years ago, during the time of Ante Markovic's economic boom. Since everything is too expensive today, hardly any new things are being bought.

"A special problem for the state is foreign exchange. According to my estimates, the allegedly large foreign exchange reserves do not exist. Hardly anybody knows exactly how much they are, even I, a former minister, do not know. But they cannot be very large," Madzar stated. The state only gets new foreign exchange from its citizens, but their savings are also decreasing.

Nevertheless, Madzar, economics adviser of the opposition, is completely sure that the sanctions will not result in a change of the Milosevic regime's policy. "The sanctions are strengthening the regime. The change in Serbia's policy toward Bosnia is not a consequence of the sanctions, but of the military threats." Madzar thinks that there will be no social unrest, despite the ruined economy and the low living standard. "Serbia is overcrowded with refugees from Bosnia and Croatia, the hospitals are full of injured people from Bosnia, and many Serbs from the rest of Yugoslavia have lost relatives in the Bosnian war. Out of fear that social unrest might cause similar dramas in the rest of Yugoslavia, the people shrink from demonstrations and social strikes."

"The consequences of the sanctions will be felt in Serbia long after they have been lifted. Without help from abroad, Serbia will never recover. But over the long term I am an optimist. For our stability is also important for Europe; it is better if there is peace here and the economy works than if the whole world is threatened."

Macedonia

Thornberry on 'Real Danger' of Expanding Conflicts

LD0206153193 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1207 GMT 2 Jun 93

Belgrade, 2 Jun (TANJUG)—Cedric Thornberry, head of the UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR] civilian affairs, assessed in Belgrade today that the situation in southern parts of the former Yugoslavia "is potentially most dangerous."

The situation in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is exceptionally tense. Partly because of the situation in Kosovo and partly because of wider geopolitical reasons, there is a real danger of conflicts breaking out in the area which, due to ethnic and historical reasons, could spread to areas outside former Yugoslavia, Thornberry told a news conference held in Belgrade's international press center.

He stressed that there is a real danger of "a second Serbian-Croatian war" erupting in Krajina, and assessed that both sides are opening artillery fire on residential areas "with great gusto."

According to him, "criminal elements" have returned to areas under United Nations protection, so the human rights of the population of these areas are now seriously violated.

UNPROFOR is trying to establish a ceasefire and to start resolving economic problems which are exceptionally serious for both sides, Thornberry said. He underlined that the Security Council is becoming very "impatient" and expects progress and clear signs of cooperation between the Croatian and Serbian sides.

I am convinced that many citizens in the areas under UN protection are sick and tired, not just of war but also of war leaders, Thornberry said.

The head of the UNPROFOR civilian affairs said that as far as potential flashpoints of crisis are concerned, Bosnia-Herzegovina "is only in the third place."

Stressing that local low-level intensity conflicts are underway in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Thornberry said that the war in that former Yugoslav republic "has entered a strange phase." He illustrated this with information about yesterday's clashes. Forces loyal to Alija Izetbegovic cooperated with the Croatian Defence Council [HVO] against Serbian formations in Maglaj, while in Vitez, they attacked the HVO. In Kiseljak, the HVO attacked Izetbegovic's forces, and "it has continued to ethnically cleanse local Muslims very energetically."

The situation is exceptionally tense in Mostar, and the only thing local Muslims and Croatians have in common is opening fire on unarmed UN policemen, Thornberry said. He said that Serbians and the HVO cooperated against Muslim forces in Konjic yesterday, while "well armed Muslim units have halted Bosnian Serbian forces" around the Posavina corridor.

Regarding yesterday's opening of mortar fire on the football pitch in a Muslim part of Sarajevo, when 10 people were killed, Thornberry said that UNPROFOR still does not have any information about which side fired the missiles. It is difficult to know from where shells are coming when demarcation lines between the two sides are so close, Thornberry said.

Regarding claims that Muslims opened fire on the football pitch in order to blame the Serbian side for the killing of civilians, and regarding comparisons between this incident and the bread queue killing a year ago, Thornberry was asked whether UNPROFOR has a report saying that forces loyal to Alija Izetbegovic were guilty of the bread queue shelling. Thornberry avoided answering this, and when the question was repeated twice, he said that "he cannot and will not confirm the existence of such a report."

He said that there are 25,210 members of the UNPROFOR. The Blue Helmet losses are 42 dead and 458 wounded, Thornberry said.

Official on Acceptable Names for Republic

AU0206204993 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Jun 93 p 15

[Dragan Nikolic report: "The Name 'Republic of Macedonia (Skopje)' Acceptable"]

[Text] Stojan Andov, chairman of the Macedonian Assembly, stated on television the night before last that the name "Republic of Macedonia (Skopje)" is acceptable for Macedonia and that this was not in contravention with the Macedonian Constitution, considering that the Republic of Macedonia is a constitutional name and that Skopje is designated as its capital city in the Constitution. Andov said that this is the most Macedonia can accept.

In the meantime, the Macedonian agency Mak-pres reported that Macedonia rejected the name proposed by the mediators in the Greek-Macedonian dispute, Vance and Owen, not mentioning the proposed name or that Macedonia sent the rejection to UN Headquarters on Sunday [29 May]. The agency also reported that Macedonia proposed that the European standards for regulating human rights and the rights of minorities be incorporated in the confidence-building measures. The agency confirmed the correctness of the reports in the Greek media on Butrus-Ghali's report on the Greek-Macedonian dispute, which was handed out to the Security Council members, adding that the report included as its integral part the findings of Badinter's commission from January last year, which state that the name Republic of Macedonia does not imply territorial aspirations.

Stevo Crvenkovski, deputy prime minister of Macedonia and acting foreign minister, stated that the "current situation has drastically been changed because the Republic of Macedonia, after its admission to the United Nations, has appeared on the map of the world as a country." Crvenkovski also stated that up until now, "there was no case of a country or a member of the United Nations vanishing as a victim of aggression." According to Crvenkovski, "there has never been a danger of internal conflict in the Republic of Macedonia, and there are no such dangers at present because the situation is radically different from those in other regions."

According to Macedonian Defense Minister Vlado Popovski, "it is not in the interest of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to attack the Republic of Macedonia, but rather on the contrary. It is in its long-term interests to have good neighborly relations." He added that peace will be preserved despite the nervousness in Kosovo because Kosovo has clearly been designated as part of the Republic of Serbia. If peace were disturbed in Kosovo, Popovski said, Macedonia would quickly find itself in the whirl of a direct military threat. He said that the peacekeeping forces in Macedonia could only have a role and functions connected with the threat to its territorial integrity and that Macedonia does not want to become a military base for interventions outside its borders.

Montenegro

Country 'Open' to Solutions for B-H Crisis

LD2805184493 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1635 GMT 28 May 93

[Text] Podgorica, May 28 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro is open to seeking the most appropriate solutions for the problem of the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and due consideration will be given to all ideas and options, a spokesman for Montenegrin President Momir Bulatovic said on Friday.

Momcilo Stojanovic told TANJUG that the implementation of these ideas and options and the international community's wish to be convinced in our sincerity was another matter.

He suggested that Montenegrin Foreign Minister Miodrag Lekic's statement in Rome on Thursday that Montenegro had accepted a deployment of international monitors on its border with Bosnia-Herzegovina should be viewed in that context.

"We have accepted the Vance-Owen plan and we also accept the monitors and the international war crimes tribunal which should punish those who deserve it," Lekic said after meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Beniamino Andreatta on Thursday.

The Montenegrin presidential spokesman said that the federal state was responsible for foreign policy and that Montenegro was an equal partner in its creation and active participant in its implementation.

The presidents of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its other republic Serbia, Dobrica Cosic and Slobodan Milosevic, rejected last week's proposal by the foreign ministers of the United States, Russia, France, Great Britain and Spain for a deployment of international observers on Yugoslavia's border with Bosnia.

Kosovo

Doctors Report Condition of Demaci Worsening

AU0306073993 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Qani Mehmeti telephone report from Pristina]

[Text] Today, Adem Demaci entered his tenth day of hunger strike, while reporters and writers their ninth.

Today's report by the doctors team of the Prishtina Faculty states that the health condition of Adem Demaci and other strikers is worsening further. Doctors have found out that, since the beginning of the hunger strike, Mr. Adem Demaci has lost nearly 50 percent of his body weight. The doctors team is keeping the health condition of Adem Demaci and other strikers under continuous supervision. The contact with the Serbian authorities that the Rilindja strike council has had so far, with the CSCE mission representative in Kosova acting as mediator, did not reach any concrete agreement. In fact, several advances were made in the talks, from the Serbian side. Through the mediator, the Serbian side gave public promises that it accepted the strikers' demands, but when it came to implementing them in a written agreement, the Serbian side jeered at every result of the talks.

Today's news conference held by the strike council after 1500 [1300 GMT] stressed that the [word indistinct] of the negotiations by the Serbian side against the given promises, through the CSCE mediator, to find an acceptable solution can be an expression of those forces that are interested in keeping and increasing tension in Kosova according to the needs of political developments in Serbia. Negotiations continue.

Messages of solidarity and support for the strike of Rilindja reporters from various political parties, associations, educational organizations, many individuals from the whole of Kosova and other ethnic Albanian territories, and international institutions continue to arrive. Thus, the Sakharov Foundation addressed an appeal to the public, signed by its chairman Eduard Climp [as heard], asking the responsible institutions to restore press freedom in Kosova and develop a constructive dialogue with Adem Demaci and other representatives of the Albanian party.

The U.S. Association for Human Rights sent a letter to the Serbian leader Milosevic on the closure of Rilindja, which states: We are deeply worried and condemn the denial of press freedom and the free Albanian word in Kosova. We are also upset about the health and the welfare of Mr. Adem Demaci and his colleagues. We ask you to annul your policy, to reopen the Rilindja Publishing House, and return freedom to press and speech in Kosova.

Support was also given by Hans Ianitch, chairman of the UN Writers Association, which states: We strongly protest against the violation of the people's rights in Kosova to freely express themselves in their mother tongue. I call on the Serbian authorities to return to these people their publications and save the life of Adem Demaci.

Talks 'in Vain'

AU0206192393 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 2 Jun 93

[Leke Mustolli report on the telephone from Pristina]

[Text] The hunger strike staged by Mr. Adem Demaci, writers, and other RILINDJA reporters is [word indistinct] under a big question mark. What will happen to the lives of Demaci and the other hunger strikers, whose health is deteriorating from one moment to the next?

The latest report issued by the team from the Medical Faculty stresses that the health situation of Demaci and the other hunger strikers is extremely serious and asks all of them to end the hunger strike immediately so as to escape the worst. However, Demaci and the others are determined not to end the strike as long as their demands are not met.

The situation is extremely serious. On one hand, the strikers, although exhausted and broken from [passage indistinct] the CSCE representatives [words indistinct], while with the formation of the so-called [words indistinct] in the Albanian language. [words indistinct] in all [words indistinct] of these enterprises are extinguished, something which makes the appearance of whatever Albanian newspaper impossible in Kosova.

For three days running, representatives [words indistinct] have been mediating between the side that seeks a freedom of the Albanian word and the [words indistinct] to close and disintegrate the free Albanian press in Kosova. This morning, the CSCE representative with [words indistinct] of RILINDJA went to the Economic Court so that both sides may be inn a position to achieve an agreement but, or so it seems, nothing will come out of this. In fact, the question is about a dirty game directed by the occupying Serbian powers, which has several times been played in Kosova. This is proved by the words of Ristic, the violent director of the publishing house, who said that these talks will be in vain because it is up to the Serbian parliament, which approved the law, to repeal it, this law which aims to close down the bank accounts of newspapers and journals in the Albanian language. As this will not happen, the question remains as it was anticipated by the lawmakers, that is, should we believe in the empty words of those who came to extinguish the free Albanian word in Kosova? The answer is in any case no. However, at present the question is arising: What should be done to permit Demaci and the other reporters, who are determined to continue the hunger strike, to avoid the worst?